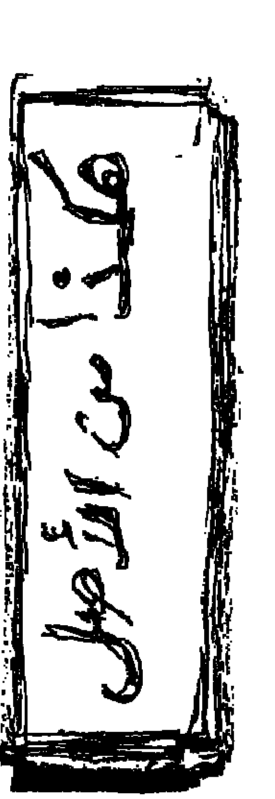


The German Tribune

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Nato has tough path to reach arms accord

Arriving at a decision on tactical nuclear modernisation became even more difficult when four of the 14 Nato countries looked like backing down.

Holland, Belgium, Denmark and Norway were unhappy about the modernisation of medium-range nuclear missiles based in Europe and capable of reaching targets in the Soviet Union.

At best there could certainly be no question of the firm resolve demanded by Bonn Defence Minister Hans Apel.

Herr Apel envisaged the North Atlantic Council unanimously resolving to go ahead with nuclear modernisation and showing a determination to do so that would make the Soviet Union readier to negotiate on arms limitation in Europe.

But views were in any case mixed. Ten or 11 of the 13 European Nato countries might have been prepared to base the new missiles on their territory.

Only five were envisaged as doing so, however, and of these five — Holland, Belgium, Britain, Italy and the Federal Republic of Germany — only three may still be willing.

Yet Nato is sure to decide, if not unanimously then at least by a substantial majority, in favour of stationing Cruise missiles and Pershing 2 rockets in Europe from 1984.

A decision will be taken in Brussels on 12 December and military men will no doubt breathe a sigh of relief. Their strategic concept is more or less home and dray.

But the political target of nuclear modernisation, the real objective of the exercise, will be a more distant prospect than ever.

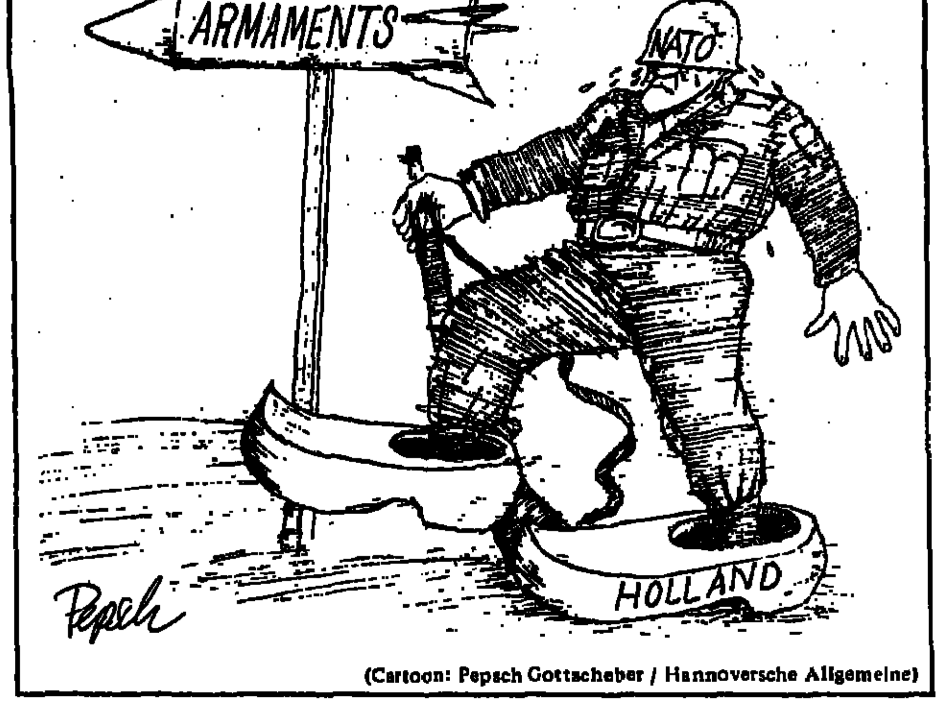
A show of Nato determination was intended to convince the Soviet Union that arms limitation was the only sensible security policy option. Moscow was to be persuaded to negotiate.

But who can now ensure that the Kremlin will not play a tactical game of sham negotiation with the aim of softening up once and for all a Nato that is clearly fraying at the edges already?

What is to stop the Soviet Union *from holding* talks, and talks about talks, until Nato is no longer able to maintain even the pretence of ability to act?

Moscow's aim is to negotiate terms that perpetuate its current superiority in medium-range nuclear missile armaments. The less Nato is willing or able

Continued on page 2



(Cartoon: Pepsch Gottscheber / Hannoversche Allgemeine)

IN THIS ISSUE

Bonn initiative on hostages gets UN approval

An agreement outlawing hostage-taking as a form of terrorism has been unanimously approved by the General Assembly's legal committee.

This is the first international agreement initiated by Bonn at the UN.

Bonn's ambassador to the UN, Rüdiger von Wechmar, said the agreement was particularly relevant at present.

Dealing with prosecution of hostage-takers, it stipulates that they must either be put on trial in the country where the offence is committed, or extradited.

In twenty paragraphs hostage-taking and counter-measures are defined and outlined. After approval by the UN General Assembly in full session the agreement will be open for signing and ratification.

It will become international law once 22 countries have endorsed it.

No-one, least of all the Bonn delegation, would have expected the agreement to work its way through the UN machinery in a mere three years.

As a rule international conventions of this kind take at least five years before they are ratified.

Bonn Foreign Minister Hans-Dietrich Genscher, ambassador von Wechmar and government specialists in international law also recalled the ignominous fate of a previous bid by UN secretary-general Kurt Waldheim.

Moved by the fate of Israeli athletes massacred at the Munich Olympics, Dr Waldheim had tried to gain UN approval for a similar agreement, but he faced opposition from the Arab world, and the East bloc was none too enthusiastic either.

The General Assembly set up an ad hoc committee to draft a convention on the basis of West German proposals. Libya, for instance, wanted a reference to innocent hostages.

This inferred that there was such a category as guilty hostages, presumably Israelis.

Interestingly, in the final stage of negotiations Libya and Iraq proved extremely helpful in surmounting differences of viewpoint.

A problem that initially made the Third World, especially Africa, doubtful was the status of liberation movements. It was eventually solved by a judgment of Solomon.

Liberation movements consider themselves to be at war, so their activities, including the taking of hostages, are considered to be covered by the terms of the 1949 Geneva convention.

All that remained was Soviet and East bloc resistance to the provision that extradition was not to be required where a hostage-taker might expect to be sentenced on account of "his race, creed, nationality, ethnic origins or political views."

The Soviet Union felt this might means cover for dissidents and insisted on a special vote on this section, which it lost hands-down.

Nearly every country expressed a vote of thanks to the West German delegation, especially Klaus Zehentner, who as vice-chairman of the legal committee had worked untiringly at reconciling differences of opinion.

Gitta Bauer

(Die Welt, 10 December 1979)

THE GERMAN TRIBUNE is carrying out a readership survey. A questionnaire card is included with part of this ussue. Please fill it in and return as soon as possible. If you have already returned a card to us recently, forget it this time. Thank you.

Vance brings briefs on Iran, weapons

Secretary of State Vance visited America's Nato allies in Europe with two main wishes, one on Iran, the other on tactical nuclear weapons.

He first sought to induce Western European allies to plan a selective embargo on Iran if some kind of Nuremberg-style judgment were to be staged against the hostages taken at the US embassy in Tehran.

Then he brought details of full US government backing for modernisation of Nato's tactical, or medium-range nuclear missile systems.

Mr Vance's views on a selective trade boycott of Iran were bound to impose a severe burden on purported transatlantic solidarity.

The United States itself produces 10½m barrels of oil a day, which makes it the largest producer in the West. So America can readily afford to dispense with Iranian oil.

America's European allies are less able to follow suit, certainly those on the Continent.

As for a selective ban on exports of, say, food and medicine to Iran, that would be a breach not only of international agreements and the UN Charter but also of Mr Carter's human rights campaign.

Level-headed State Department officials in fact expect Iran to conduct show trials of the hostages before releasing them.

After five weeks of crisis the occupation of the US embassy in Tehran has certainly drawn the world's attention to undeniably "unusual" US intelligence activities, especially by the CIA, in Iran.

Marlene Manthey

(Nordwest Zeitung, 10 December 1979)

■ FOREIGN AFFAIRS

Iran: reconciling the irreconcilable

The drama of the people held hostage in the US embassy in Tehran is a sad record, since the occupation of the embassy by Iranian students has broken a taboo.

A classic feature of international law, the special rights enjoyed by diplomatic missions, has been ridden over roughshod in the occupation.

Not even the Axis powers in the Second World War felt it was advisable to shake the foundations of this particular mainstay of international ties.

The way in which Iran's revolutionary regime is tolerating and covering up for the occupation and the conditions to which US embassy staff are being subjected as hostages is particularly heinous.

It is the first time a state (and a religious regime with special claims to ethical standards, too) has resorted to individual terror to achieve its political aims.

While the overwhelming majority of the international community seeks, at the UN and elsewhere, to reach agreement on combating and containing the spread of terrorism, a precedent is here been set, in full view of a world public, that could have unforeseeable consequences.

Since 1965 Iran has undertaken to abide by the 1961 Vienna agreement on diplomatic relations, so even though Tehran is committed to affording US diplomatic staff continuous protection and security the Iranian regime has seen fit to stage the taking of hostages.

The precedent is readily set, as was shown by events in, most recently, Libya where the government expressed regrets but was reluctant to assume responsibility for evidently inadequate protection.

Libya even went so far as to denounce as a breach of international law the measures of self-defence taken by US embassy staff.

In a world that is rocked by power struggles and ideological clashes and has undergone a good 100 wars since the end of the Second World War, an attack on the hitherto undisputed code of international diplomatic conduct cannot but be regarded with deep dismay.

The UN Charter goes much further than the banning of war fare in the 1928 Briand-Kellogg Pact, requiring "all members ... to eschew threats and the use of force in their international relations."

There is a growing contradiction between the steadily more sophisticated provisions of international law, or law between states, as it might better be termed, and the increasingly alarming reality.

This is why there is a growing interest in diplomacy, the means by which, conflict notwithstanding, talks with the "enemy" can be kept going and crises "managed."

So it was very much in their own interest that the members of the UN Security Council unanimously approved a resolution calling on Iran to free the hostages, and to do so without ifs and buts.

In the preamble to the Security Council resolution, there is even talk of a sacrosanct obligation by which UN members are duty bound to abide by hitherto undisputed provisions of international law.

Admittedly, the Security Council does not represent the majority of UN members and accordingly does not reflect the covert or overt sympathy with the Khomeini regime's move felt in parts of the Third or Fourth World.

The theocratic regime in Tehran, backed by telling 99-per-cent support in the recent referendum, will no doubt continue to press its claim for prosecution of the Shah by an international tribunal — like Nuremberg.

For the United States this is out of the question. Once the precedent has been set all manner of regimes could call for show trials of their enemies; it could be the beginning of the end for the United Nations.

Before the issue was referred to the Security Council Ayatollah Khomeini called for a holy war against the United States at the "military, religious and financial levels."

Iranian revolutionary tribunals had declared the Shah fair game; anyone was entitled to kill him or members of his family.

President Carter drew a parallel between mob violence and the Tehran Government. They had, he said, become one and the same. A theocratic regime had resorted to taking hostages.

This is the upshot in a dispute governed by fanaticism and blind or implicit belief in its own justice and virtue. Fanaticism, unlike cynicism, is not disposed to accept common-sense reasoning.

And when so much self-righteousness is vaunted, not to mention the will of God, how much leeway is left for compromise, for crisis management and for long-term constructive cooperation!

Hans Schuster
(Süddeutsche Zeitung, 6 December 1979)

'Don't tempt' Moscow, Nato warned

If the Soviet Union were to increase its lead in medium-range nuclear missiles, Moscow might be tempted to threaten attacking countries in Western Europe, according to a Bonn Foreign Office Minister.

Hildegard Hamm-Brücher, speaking in Paris before the Nato summit, urged the West to modernise its arms potential.

It was not just a matter of Europe boasting as many medium-range rockets as the Soviet Union, she said at a meeting of the parliamentary assembly of the Western European Union.

The aim of modernisation as envisaged was to establish prerequisites under which Nato might continue to rely on its flexible response strategy.

This strategy was only credible as long as Nato remained capable of delivering a deterrent strike.

If the Soviet Union were to increase its medium-range missile lead, it might be tempted to threaten Western European countries.

To prevent this, Nato *just had* to modernise its medium-range rocket potential, Frau Hamm-Brücher said.

In considering Nato arms modernisation needs Bonn had thus been governed by the principle of maintaining defence and deterrent capacity.

Postponing a Nato decision would be a mistake, she said. Modernisation could be kept to within bounds, Chancellor Schmidt had said, if agreement were reached on effective limitation of continental strategic systems. *dpa*

(Die Welt, 4 December 1979)

Bonn seeks 'wide ranging talks' on disarmament

Foreign Minister Genscher has appealed to the Warsaw Pact countries to take part in wide-ranging disarmament talks with the West.

Talks should, he said, include medium-range nuclear missiles, the troop-cut talks in Central Europe and negotiations on confidence-building measures.

He also favoured discussion of the French proposal for a European disarmament conference.

Addressing Wuppertal chamber of commerce and industry, Herr Genscher said the West's negotiation aims extended to matters outlined by Mr Brezhnev in October in East Berlin.

In view of the East Berlin conference of Warsaw Pact Foreign and Defence Ministers he reiterated his call on the Soviet Union to facilitate medium-range missile talks by halting manufacture and stationing of SS-20 missiles.

He stressed the substantial discrepancy between East and West expenditure on armament and development aid.

In 1977 the Nato countries had spent 4.5 per cent of their gross national product on arms, whereas Warsaw Pact states had ploughed 11.7 per cent of GNP into armaments.

The figures for the United States and the Soviet Union had been 5.4 and 13 per cent.

Yet in 1970 the Soviet Union had spent only 0.12 per cent of its GNP on development aid, a percentage that had declined to 0.03 by 1978.

Warsaw Pact Foreign Ministers called for immediate factual talks on medium-range missiles, but noted in an East Berlin communiqué that a Nato decision to modernise these weapon systems would destroy any basis for negotiations.

It would be an attempt by Nato to conduct talks from a position of strength, which was, as a matter of principle, unacceptable as far as the Warsaw Pact countries were concerned.

Heinz-Joachim Melder
(Kölner Stadt-Anzeiger, 6 December 1979)

Continued from page 1

to modernise, the less expensive a settlement will be for the Soviet Union.

Nato strategic planners in Brussels are most disappointed in the Dutch and Belgians, having relied on the old argument that the Russian bear was more dangerous than ever and Nato on the brink of collapse.

But crying wolf was sure sooner or later to cease having the required effect, and the time has now come. It serves Nato right for allowing its policies to be decided for years almost exclusively by brasshats, and not even European brasshats!

For too long Nato policy has over-emphasised armaments and under-emphasised security.

The arms emphasis has increasingly proved a failure. The deterrent has come to look a doubtful quantity now the Soviet Union has demonstrated its ability to outdo any Western arms bid.

Besides, the brasshats can never yet have found it so difficult as on this occasion to make tactical modernisation comprehensible to the civilians.

They seem to think in terms that defy understanding by what might reasonably be defined as common sense.

What the military demand in order to keep up their flexible response strategy is seen by the layman as, to quote Carl Friedrich von Weizsäcker, a suicidal threat levelled at the Soviet Union.

Yet the Nato decision in Brussels might have been reached more convincingly if only it had been prepared with greater patience and persuasion.

If only America had not given rise to mistrust and suspicion that what was at stake was not the security of Europe but the survival of the United States, if need be at Europe's expense!

Dr Kissinger was among those who gave rise to such suspicions when, in his Brussels speech of last September, he said US intercontinental missiles were reserved solely for the protection of the United States.

Another factor in mistrust is, inevitably, the slow progress of the Salt 2 ratification debate in the US Senate. Does the US government need a Nato decision in order to ensure passage of Salt 2 through the Senate?

Is tactical modernisation, in the final analysis, no more than a fig leaf? Before Salt 2 was signed there was precious little mention in America of new medium-range missiles for Europe. Yet the Soviet Union was busy deploying SS-20 missiles in Europe.

But there can be no going back. Nato is in such dire straits that it needed a decision no matter how little conviction it carried.

Postponement would be no alternative, it would merely consolidate disunity. Nato can but hope that in the wake of the decision time will be on its side.

Maybe ranks will close again after the first round of talks with the Soviet Union.

Winfried Münster
(Hannoversche Allgemeine, 10 December 1979)

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Have the Social Democrats promised too much with their West Berlin party conference slogan, "Security for the 80s."?

It is sure to be a mainstay of their 1980 election campaign.

They may not be as ambitious as Herr Strauss's CSU in Bavaria, which proclaims its intention of "Mastering the Future."

But Security for the 80s seems a tall order in view of international crises and a vague feeling of anxiety among the West German public.

Most of the conference decisions could hardly be said to be grand designs for the future, however. The resolutions on nuclear power and security were no more than hesitant, arduous steps.

What is more, it was far from clear where they would eventually lead.

This was certainly no way to shape the future, a much overworked phrase at Berlin, where is sounded challenging, heartfelt and at times a little utopian, except when a clear choice between two alternatives was involved.

Peaceful exploitation of atomic energy is an issue Social Democrats have learnt how to handle.

Objective necessity, another overworked Social Democrats term, has on more than one occasion obliged them to come to terms with the nuclear power issue.

It was a new experience for them to find themselves bowing to objective necessity on security policy too. For the first time this decade decisions were required.

What was more, it was not merely a matter of weighing up abstract theories put forward by military pundits.

Social Democrats had an uneasy feeling that security policy might sorely try detente, the hitherto unsullied centrepiece of SPD policy in office.

Willy Brandt resorted to wording so tortuous there could be little doubt he, for one, did not relish the prospect of Nato nuclear modernisation.

"What ever intermediate solutions may have given rise to ill-will," he said, "we certainly call for a fresh bid, without illusions but untiring, to reactivate the policy of detente and lend it solidity by means of reciprocal arms reductions."

Herr Brandt's choice of words testified to a contest between resignation and hope, between political scepticism and loyalty to Chancellor Schmidt.

Herbert Wehner was likewise a far cry from last year, when he resorted to almost partisan measures in an attempt to further the cause of disarmament talks and fostering understanding of Soviet interests.

Herr Wehner, the SPD's parliamentary party leader, never for one moment swerved from what he feels must be the overriding principle of Social Democratic policy: to achieve anything you must have power and be in a position to govern.

So he unconditionally supported the Chancellor's majority and recommended conference to become as united as the parliamentary party.

Herr Schmidt's critics, unable to present a clear alternative, shared the feeling that the Chancellor had to be left a free hand to run next year's general election campaign.

So Helmut Schmidt was in line for conference acclaim for once, and he put the opportunity to good use.

Two years ago in Hamburg the Chancellor cautiously sought to make his peace and compromise with the party. So the 1977 conference was more of an SPD conference than a Chancellor's conference.

This time he was not making any concessions to the conference. The impression he put across was strictly his own, that of Helmut Schmidt, warts and all.

He was honest, tough, to the point and not given to visions of the future. He cut a convincing figure as a policymaker first and foremost.

But was he outlining SPD policy or did he widen still further the gap between the Chancellor and the party to which the Opposition is so happy to refer?

Talk of the SPD as it met in Berlin as a group of election campaigners on the Chancellor's behalf is a no more than superficial jibe.

Behind closed doors Herr Schmidt made it clear he was no longer prepared to shoulder the burden of government without a clear mandate from the conference.

He will naturally have realised that members of the executive would not be keeping this covert threat to resign to themselves.

But the fact is that there is no current alternative to Helmut Schmidt — other, that is, than to lose the next election — and everyone in the SPD is well aware of the fact.

■ THE SPD CONFERENCE

A slogan in contrast with hesitant resolutions

He devoted much more public effort (and most of his speech to the conference) to explaining to the SPD why there was no factual alternative to the policy he advocated.

Economic growth, he said, was a must. It was the only prospect of maintaining social peace at home and containing catastrophe in the Third World.

He accordingly argued that "we cannot dispense, for the next few decades at least, with limited development and exploitation of nuclear power."

Many Social Democrats were disappointed he made no mention of growth in quality, and thereby conveyed the impression of being a Chancellor environmentalists might fairly argue differed little from the Opposition.

Herr Schmidt was likewise seemingly impervious to a widespread feeling of scepticism about technological progress that is a wellspring of support for and interest in alternative technology.

He instead made common cause with other decision-makers, men of common sense at home and abroad, in East and West, men ranging from the trades unions' Heinz Oskar Vetter to the EEC Commission's Roy Jenkins, from Soviet Prime Minister Alexei Kosygin to French President Valéry Giscard d'Estaing.

His line of argument was similar but more convincing on security policy, and one reason why it bore such conviction was that he was able to demonstrate how many times he has internationally advocated arms limitation and detente.

He announced in Berlin his intention of conferring with GDR leader Erich Honecker early next year, but this no more than symbolised his statesmanlike approach.

Helmut Schmidt unquestionably believes what he says when he claims that "peace policy is the most important task that lies ahead in the 80s," and this is an issue on which the SPD is happy to go along with the Chancellor.

But he is no less firmly convinced that arms limitation talks can only be successful if they are not undertaken on bended knees.

Arms talks will, he feels, be doomed to failure (and maybe never even get started) if "the United States does not have something it can offer in return for a Soviet renunciation of specific weaponry."

This is why, in his view, there is no responsible alternative to the Nato decision to modernise medium-range nuclear armament in Europe.

On this point Social Democrats were distinctly more reluctant to accept his line of argument.

But neither was Herr Schmidt apologetic about his views on nuclear power (civil) and nuclear power (military).

He did not try to sell them as regrettable but indispensable aspects of government policy that were a far cry from Social Democratic objectives.

He left no leeway for the argument that the SPD could do so much better if only it were able to run the government by itself and not in joint harness with a coalition partner.

He said he found it difficult to allow others to tell him what constituted a Social Democrat (but did not sound unduly apologetic as he said so).

Helmut Schmidt now lays claim to framing Social Democratic policies himself. He leads the party, not Willy Brandt.

This claim may not go unchallenged, but it is made authoritatively and probably with majority support from trade union leaders and the parliamentary party.

SPD resolutions and government policy have never been as closely interlinked as they are right now, with Social Democrats closing ranks behind Herr Schmidt if only to keep Herr Strauss out.

But part of the SPD finds it extremely difficult to identify with his policy, and some Social Democrats find it altogether impossible.

It is often dismissed, and frequently by Social Democrats themselves, as the administration of objective necessity, but the idea could also be expressed in more positive fashion.

Helmut Schmidt could be said to have realised that politicians who want to be successful must not try to shirk this necessity.

He regards politics as the art of carefully working with necessity.

It is not a very exciting concept; dry and sober would be more fitting terms. It depends less on programmes than on confidence in the men in charge and the expectation that they will be reliable, calculable and not given to adventures.

Rolf Zundel
(Die Zeit, 7 December 1979)



SPD leader Willy Brandt being congratulated by parliamentary party leader Herbert Wehner after his opening speech to the West Berlin party conference. Bonn Chancellor Helmut Schmidt looks on approvingly. (Photo: dpa)

Votes give leaders a surprise

Chancellor Schmidt tried to tell Social Democrats at the party conference in West Berlin that the opening day's debate had been in some way memorable.

It was not. It was merely a smooth run of carefully orchestrated decision-making on security and detente, with the odd surprise thrown in.

Without any debate whatever the conference could have endorsed the Chancellor's policy, which was uniformly backed without the slightest sign of disagreement by SPD leaders ranging from Herbert Wehner to Willy Brandt and Egon Bahr.

Detailed debate did, however, lead to votes that came as a pleasant surprise to the platform because they were so clearly in favour of the leadership.

This was due to no small extent to opposition to the executive's resolution on security policy came almost entirely from Young Socialists and off-centre figures who are currently felt to be something of a nuisance.

But the weight they carry within the SPD at present is as slight as the importance the Chancellor has always attached to them.

The resolution on security policy and Nato nonetheless contains a loophole that can but be described as self-delusion.

The wording implies that in certain circumstances the procurement of new US nuclear arms to offset Soviet supremacy might be avoided.

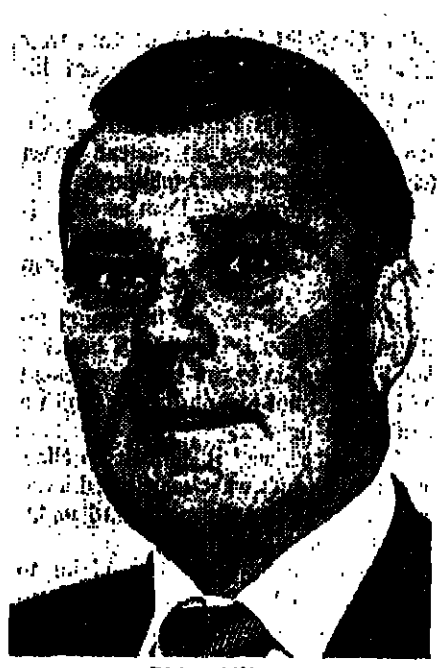
Herr Schmidt told not the Berlin party conference but the parliamentary party in Bonn that a renunciation of this kind by the West could only prove possible in ideal circumstances.

In other words, the West cannot practically and in terms of fact, dispense with nuclear modernisation after all.

(Hannoversche Allgemeine, 6 December 1979)

■ POLITICIANS

New deputy speaker was on the point of leaving parliament



Richard Wurbs

(Photo: Sven Simon)

It took the FDP less than four minutes to nominate Richard Wurbs as its candidate for deputy speaker of the Bundestag.

A sarcastic in joke among the party brass is that, as a matter of principle, the number of official posts for party members is limited only by the number of members.

Economic Affairs Minister Otto Lambsdorff, who follows exactly the same line as Herr Wurbs, made the nomination and FDP Floor Leader Wolfgang Mischnick simply asked if there was any other candidate.

On receiving no reply, it was clear that there was no need to vote, and the nomination was passed by acclamation.

The election in the Bundestag was equally straight-forward, (each party has a deputy speaker) and so Herr Wurbs acquired one more title on 28 November. But titles aside, as a deputy speaker he not only receives one-and-a-half times the normal (taxable) MP's remuneration but also an official car, office and expense account.

Within the party, Herr Wurbs' has since been nicknamed "the double deputy" because he has for some time been the deputy chairman of the Central Association of the German Trades.

He is therefore well known in trades circles. But most of his fellow MPs not belonging to the FDP and not part of the housing committee of which he is a member are largely unaware even of the fact that he has been a Bundestag member for the past 15 years.

But tradesmen are well aware of what they owe him for his inconspicuous services.

It was Richard Wurbs – himself the owner of a small construction company in Kassel – who, together with Count Lambsdorff, launched the "Be Your Own Boss" programme for young entrepreneurs.

Apart from encouraging all those who rarely get or take the opportunity to come to the fore, the election of the back bencher has also made Herr Wurbs *change his decision to withdraw from* parliamentary life.

He had already announced that he would not run again because he wanted to devote himself to his business (with a payroll of 10) and that if he engaged in politics at all it would be on a local level.

But now that he has become deputy speaker, following in the footsteps of his illustrious Liberal predecessors Max Becker, Thomas Dehler, Walter Scheel and Liselotte Funcke, he has had second thoughts and has decided to stand again in 1980.

Georg Leber was in the same boat. Before becoming a deputy speaker, he had hardly any hope of being re-elected. But he has since made it clear that he could not imagine the SPD not re-nominating one of its deputy speakers. Such positions seem to have a stabilising effect on their holders.

The CSU, for instance, managed to get its man, Richard Stücklen, elected as Bundestag speaker with the argument that he would remain in the post only until the end of the legislative period.

Meanwhile, however, Herr Stücklen has grown so attached to his job that he has not only proved himself a strict moderator, determined to maintain peace and quiet and constantly chiding the MPs for non-attendance, but also says he wants to remain as speaker beyond 1980.

The Bundestag now has a presiding body very much of the people. Georg Leber, like Herr Wurbs, started as a bricklayer's apprentice, and Herr Stücklen was apprenticed as an electrician before – again as in Herr Wurbs' case, taking over his parents' business.

Annemarie Renger trained in a publishing business and worked there until she became the private secretary of Kurt Schumacher.

And besides, the presiding body can now withdraw to a game of cards whenever Reinhard von Weizsäcker, who is somewhat atypical in this circle, presides.

Anyone naively asking the FDP why they picked on Richard Wurbs is bound to get the terse answer: "In the end, he was the only one still in the running."

But perhaps it was only that he was the only one left without an office.

Minister of State Hildegard Hamm-Brücher feels happier in the Foreign Office than inparliament and Hans-Günter Hoppe prefers to remain deputy floor leader and fiscal expert.

Kurt Spitzmüller would have liked the post, but he was talked out of it behind closed doors by Mischnick, who later told his fellow party members why: "Because the FDP in the Bundestag cannot afford to do without such an experienced parliamentary manager."

Klaus Dreher

(Süddeutsche Zeitung, 29 November 1979)

After 50 years, veteran quits his party posts

Alex Möller, 76, (known as "Comrade Managing Director") has told the SPD congress in Berlin that he is resigning from the last of his party posts.

He thus for the last time presented the report of the Control Commission over which he had presided for the past six years.

Herr Möller devoted more than 50 years to the party, having served as a deputy in the Prussian Assembly, the Baden-Württemberg Assembly and the Bundestag.

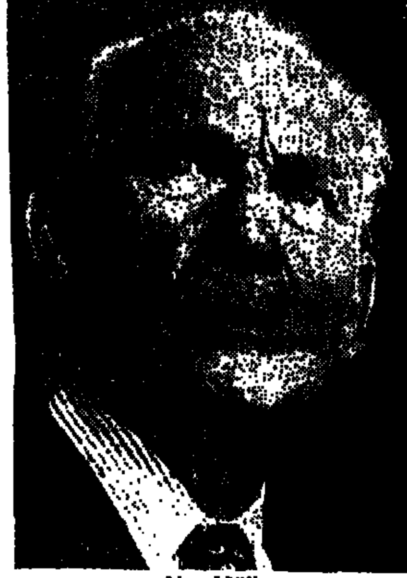
He was chairman of the Baden-Württemberg SPD, member of the party executive and of the Control Commission.

In 1969, Willy Brandt appointed him as the first finance minister of the Social-Liberal coalition in Bonn.

But only two years later, in 1971, Alex Möller resigned.

He did not need his portfolio "for a livelihood", for he has always been financially independent. But he felt that the reforms of the Brandt-Scheel Government, which had indeed bitten off more than it could chew, could not be financed responsibly.

For the managing director of a life insurance company, two plus two remained four even when he was finance minister. It took Willy Brandt some time to realise this and it was put on record in his second government policy statement in 1972.



Alex Möller

(Photo: Marianne von der Lancken)

With it all, Alex Möller has remained faithful to his party. Willy Brandt has called him a man of an "almost Prussian sense of duty."

Alex Möller has placed himself at his party's disposal as an adviser ... should his advice be wanted, that is.

Werner Neumann

(Lübecker Nachrichten, 4 December 1979)

Social Democrat relief as 'Red Jochen' resigns

The Social Democrats have breathed a sigh of relief at the resignation of Jochen Steffen, one of the party's biggest rebels.

Herr Steffen, who once considered himself the uncrowned king of Schleswig-Holstein, quietly cut his links with the SPD by letter from Austria.

He is known as "Red Jochen", and is as proud of the label as is Helmut Schmidt of his *Hamburgischer Lotsenmütze* (Hamburg harbour pilot's hat).

His resignation means that the party has one fewer individualist, but he would have caused problems at the party conference in Berlin, particularly on the nuclear energy question.

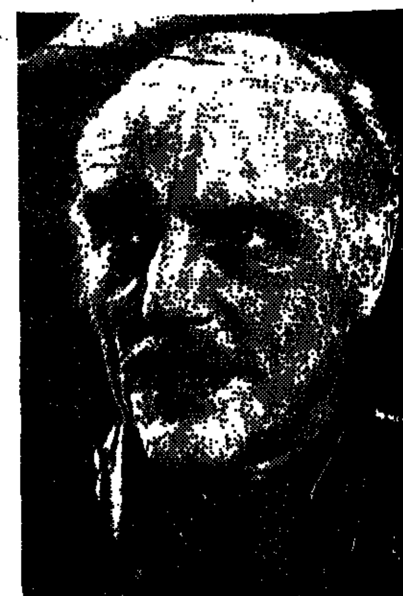
Red Jochen would have been a particularly uncomfortable adversary.

The stubborn though personable ex-SPD politician was once the assistant in Kiel of Professor Michael Freund.

Born in 1922, he joined the party in 1946 and was the first to be officially muzzled by the SPD. As Schleswig-Holstein chairman of the Jusos (young members' branch), he was barred from speaking in 1955 for his acid criticism of the party bureaucracy.

But when did his inner break with the party occur? The dogmatic socialist – this is how his own party characterised Herr Steffen – has probably never properly embraced the Godesberg Programm of a people's party although he was a member of the party executive in 1968.

He deviated more and more from the party line, having foundered as the *Land* chairman of the SPD at almost precisely the moment when he lost his fight to become prime minister of Schleswig-Holstein, the CDU having succeeded in staying in office with von Hassel and Stoltenberg.





Jochen Steffen

(Photo: Sven Simon)

Ever since, things started deteriorating – in phases though ever faster. And then came the nuclear waste disposal concept of the Bonn government, which Steffen rejected so emphatically that he only had a choice between expulsion and resignation.

He left with one last thunderbolt when he announced that, in the 1980 election, he would vote for the "Green List" (environmentalists).

And so ended what was essentially a tragicomedy.

But Jochen Steffen is not truly "green"; he is only "greenish". He has announced that he would not join the Greens. But is this really his last word?

It remains to be seen. After all, he is intellectually akin to Rudolf Bahro who is already active on behalf of the Greens.

Fritz Lucke

(Nordwest Zeitung, 24 November 1979)

■ POLITICS

State Free Democrats in uproar during coalition debate

Werner Klumpp, leader of the Saarland Free Democratic Party and Minister of Economics in the *Land* government, is something of a prophet.

Before the Saarland FDP party conference he made two predictions, one about the style and one about the content.

Herr Klumpp predicted that two thirds of the delegates would vote in favour of continuing the coalition with the CDU in Saarbrücken. As for the style, he reckoned no punches would be pulled.

He was right on both counts. On 2 December, 67 per cent of the delegates voted for continuing the coalition after the *Land* election next 27 April. This may have pleased Herr Klumpp. But the number of unpulled punches during the discussions must have cast a big shadow over this.

The speakers at the conference addressed the audience as "dear fellow-Liberals" but there was none of this chumminess in what then followed.

Warning fails to defuse row

There was talk of blackmail and pressure, of shamelessness and lack of style. This was all too much for Rosemarie Scheurlen, the *Land* Social Minister.

She warned the party that if they continued in this vein it could be destroyed from within.

But these words of admonishment did nothing to take the heat out of the discussion – excitement among advocates and opponents of the continued alliance with the CDU was too great.

The conference got off to a poor start. The credentials and identity of every delegate were checked so thoroughly that the proceedings began an hour late.

When Herr Klumpp started his 24-page speech advocating the continuation of the FDP-CDU alliance and describing it as the basis for a "new South German Liberal line" there were already 48 request's to speak on the executive's table.

The tumult in the plenum was followed by two resolutions: a move to limit discussion to one hour (which was rejected) and one limiting every delegate to three minutes' speech which was carried with a clear majority.

This paved the way for a largely emotional and chaotic discussion. No delegate was able to stick to the subject and explain in three minutes why it was better for the FDP to stay with the CDU or go back to the SPD.

And so abuse took the place of objective argument and insults flew left, right and centre.

The situation was not helped by the *Land* executive's lack of tactical finesse. Its resolution originally read that the Saar FDP continued to see its political task as "making its contribution to liberal *Land* policy on the basis of the agreed principles laid down by the party conference."

The justification for this was: "In the view of the *Land* executive the present, proven government coalition should be continued on the basis of the preconditions laid out in the resolution text."

The trouble is that the most important of these preconditions – what constitutes liberal policies – has not yet been agreed on. So the executive quickly had to change "agreed principles" to "principles to be agreed."

Deputy *Land* leader Hans Kaltebach, who had vainly pleaded that the party should not commit itself to a coalition with either CDU or SPD, simply could not comprehend this: "We are not so desperate that we have to look at our future partner first and then make a programme."

Werner Klumpp

(Photo: Marianne von der Lancken)

Another Klumpp critic went even further and said the party was selling itself too cheap.

Most disagreed. They agreeds with Herr Klumpp who, "in all modesty," had pointed out that the FDP, since joining the coalition two and a half years ago," had made a positive contribution for our people in *Land* policy." Herr Klumpp added another reason for continuing the coalition with the CDU:

"Not only do we have the scope to shape our policies as we wish, we also have the opportunity to make our policies clear in public."

It seems doubtful whether this will be enough to get the FDP over the 5-percent hurdle. Committed advocates of an FDP-SPD coalition said they would draw personal consequences after the vote on 2 December. The test of the Liberals in the Saarland may be only just beginning.

Reinhard Voss

(Frankfurter Rundschau, 4 December 1979)

Blanket backing for ecology group ruled out

The national organisation of environmental citizens' action committees *(Bürgerinitiativen)* has said that it will not one-sidely favour the ecologist group of parties in the general election.

There is something to be a said for this.

It is one thing to support the principles of ecology.

It is another to be a member of a movement which takes its fate in its own hands, operates outside parliament, and has had considerable success beyond the party principle.

The national association of environmental citizens' action committees has decided to stick to its present mode of operation, to avoid riling a rank and file which has given governments from one end of this country to another headaches – with protests against the building of atomic power stations and other forms of environmental pollution such as futile and unwanted motorways.

However, there is another good argument.

When two different groups fight sepaseparately for one and the same thing, the danger of defeat is less.

If the ecologists should, at the end of the day, fail, this will not mean that the environmental movement is out of the running.

Frankfurter Rundschau

The environmentalists will not be too happy about some of their past actions.

The big demonstration in Bonn was very well attended, but politicians ignored it. Finding new forms of resistance which are both effective and non-violent is tough in view of laws which can be widely interpreted.

However, resistance is sometimes necessary, as has been seen not only in the case of atomic power stations.

(Frankfurter Rundschau, 3 December 1979)

No queues to join the new Citizens' Party

A political party launched earlier this year is having severe teething troubles.

People are not joining Hermann Fredersdorf's Citizens' Party as quickly as was hoped.

It was formed in May and it was hoped that at least 5,000 would have joined by the end of the year.

But membership is only about 1,700.

A big setback has been the lack of interest from the big conservative parties.

The Christian Social Union's Franz Josef Strauss showed initial interest, but lost it upon becoming shadow chancellor.

Herr Fredersdorf would be a poor party leader if he did not says he is confident that membership will increase considerably in the next weeks.

But inwardly he is steeling himself for the worst.

Even outside the party executive – which has since shrunk from six to three – he expresses his concern: "If we do not succeed, I am ready to resign, so that the search for mistakes can begin."

However, Herr Fredersdorf does not allow 15 minutes to pass before qualifying this threat.

He says something "very special" would have to happen to prevent him leading his party, which was now going through a process of purification, at the next general election.

As an example he mentions: "No more members." At the moment, he is running the party from an office in Bonn for which the monthly rent is DM1,000. Would lack of money be another factor that could prompt him to resign?

No, membership fees and unspecified donations from industry would help him and his two assistants to get by.

For Herr Fredersdorf, money will only really become important in the election campaign, from June onwards. He says that five banks are prepared, if necessary, to give him a loan of DM3.5 million.

District associations could also, if necessary, take up small loans which could be used "concentratedly." Of course there would be no money then, any more than now, for spectacular moves.

Politically, Herr Fredersdorf cannot make any spectacular moves either. After an initial show of interest, Franz Josef Strauss has abandoned Fredersdorf, since becoming CDU-CSU candidate for the chancellorship.

The CSU *Land* executive now says that the man they once tried to get on their side. They argue that a one-man party is no longer a major factor. Herr Fredersdorf has a great future behind him after his poor start, they say.

"He just hasn't managed to do what he said he would do on May 1."

The CDU leadership was extremely sceptical about Herr Frederdorf's meeting with Herr Strauss. They are also peeved that in recent local council elections in two small towns in the Sauerland the Citizens' Party won votes off the CDU "and is even proud of this."

The SPD simply ignores its former member Herr Fredersdorf, saying he can no longer be taken seriously. "He has outmanoeuvred himself and allowed himself to be outmanoeuvred."

The CSU was the only party that did not attack the Citizens' Party when it was founded. At one stage the party would have liked to see Herr Strauss as chancellor, but this has all changed. Herr Fredersdorf now cites Bavaria as a crass example of "gross over-entanglement" between the government party and the state.

He accuses the CSU of being just as "fossilised, short-sighted, untrustworthy, opportunistic and hidebound by ideological commitments" as the other established parties.

Herr Fredersdorf also attaches importance to underlining that in 1968/69, as an SPD member, he was a bitter opponent of Herr Strauss.

His Citizens' Party had always kept its distance from the Bavarian Prime Minister.

Herr Fredersdorf therefore threatens, if he wins 30 seats in Parliament, to help a CDU candidate into the chancellor's seat instead of Herr Strauss.

This is the kind of support the CDU can do without. It has advised Herr Fredersdorf "to make a quiet and orderly exit."

A. Szandar

(Süddeutsche Zeitung, 1 December 1979)

■ FINANCE

Bid to seize Iranian interest 'cannot be condoned'

The New York-based Morgan Guaranty Trust has applied in court in Essen to seize a 25.01-per-cent stake in Fried. Krupp GmbH. The share is owned by the Iranian Government, and Morgan Guaranty want it as a surety against $40m it says Iran owes it. The court has, in a preliminary step, given the application the go-ahead, but legally these are still very early days. However, the attitude of business and banking circles is one of disfavour. They feel that the move is against the principle of a free-market economy. (A similar move is possible against another German firm, Deutsche Babcock AG). The Government in Bonn has expressed regrets over Morgan Guaranty's action, but has made it clear that it will not intervene. The Economic Affairs Ministry has pointed out that the affair is purely a matter of civil jurisdiction and German-Iranian trade will not be affected.

This case, which has so enraged Berthold Beitz, Krupp's chief executive, has a financial, a legal, a global economic and a political dimension.

The characteristic thing about all four of these dimensions is the lack of knowledge and effort by those concerned to reduce the conflict potential, minimise the affair or brush it aside altogether. The former is called for while the latter is not.

In legal terms, the seizure of the stock by the Essen court has not changed Iran's participation. That country remains the co-owner of Krupp because contractual provisions preclude any change in the ownership structure unless both parties agree.

The move also does not disprove the theory that the investment of petrodollars in industrial corporations means the optimal use of capital, benefiting both parties.

But, of course, such institutionalised cooperation was entered into on the assumption of political stability and was based on economic logic. Both these premises have been shattered or at least suspended by the Islamic revolution.

The attachment won by Morgan Guaranty Trust Co. is understandable though it cannot be condoned.

Granted, a bank that sees its deposits endangered might be duty-bound to take action. But whether the American bank could not have done this in its own country cannot be ascertained at this stage. The impression at the moment is that it overreacted at the expense of a third party — the Federal Republic of Germany. German bankers have vainly tried to point this out in New York.

The economic war between Iran and the United States, which is now spreading to other countries, developed in a number of stages: The toppling of the Shah, the revolution, the hostage-taking in violation of international law, the oil boycott and the freezing of accounts; all these spell danger of war, both political and economic.

It is a truism to say that an escalation will see no winners but only losers. Trade wars and boycotts are a daily ocurrence. They take place under many cloaks, and the industrialised countries are by no means innocent. Their cloak is protectionism.

But the American-Iranian conflict exceeds all tolerable limits for those affected.

A relaxation of tensions is a must — not only out of concern for German nationals and companies in that country and, of course, the oil situation. But it is extremely difficult to bring it about because red figures in balance sheets cannot be made good with quotations from the Koran.

So what is to be done? To start with, the whole thing would only become worse if a big noise were to be made over it. What is needed is diplomatic circumspection.

The German companies affected by the attachments must ensure that their business relations remain normal and they must make it clear to their Iranian partners and co-owners that a seizure is out of the question.

The banks, always boasting of good relations between the United States and Europe, are called upon to draw their American counterparts' attention to the consequences of such actions.

The Bonn Government recently restricted itself to expressing its "regret". But there is much to be done. Germany's diplomats in Tehran could explain to the rulers there that there is a division of power in a democracy and that even the lowliest of courts is independent.

Iran could be told that under no circumstances would the Federal Government intervene and thus become a party to the economic war between Iran and America.

Oil price pressure on world trade

Oil price in $ per barrel (159 litres)

1973	1974	1975	1976	1977	1978	1979
2.70	9.76	10.72	11.51	12.40	12.70	21.50

Average at end of October 1979

Oil price shock — Oil price shock

Economic growth of Western industrialised countries in per cent

1973	1974	1975	1976	1977	1978	1979	1980
+6.1	+0.6	-0.6	+5.2	+3.6	+3.7	+2.8	+1.2

Recession — World trade downturn — 1979, 1980 (Estimated)

This is, of course, pretty difficult because Bonn has already stated its solidarity with Washington, and there can be no budging from this position.

But this does not include the seizure of Iranian assets to satisfy claims against that country as long as trade relations between Germany and Iran remain reasonably normal. (It should be noted that American-Iranian trade also continues and that the subject of default has been escalated out of proportion).

Even a mere public discussion on whether the use of economic pressure would make Iran give in in the end would be wrong. We must not overlook that Khomeini cannot be entirely equated to the Revolutionary Council and — even less — the government.

In view of the virtual paralysis of the Tehran government, it is hard to find a reliable person with whom to talk. But this is what diplomats are for.

"I believe that we should do nothing that would put us in the wrong," s[ays] Hans Friderichs, chief executive [of] Dresdner Bank and an expert on Iran.

Satisfaction of financial claims m[ust] remain strictly within international [law]. And threatening action is contr[ary] to it.

Unfortunately, it has already become obvious that the oil-induced aversion to the dollar poses considerable problems for the deutschemark.

The inflationary impulses generated by the switch to the deutschemark are alredy giving rise to concern.

Ayatollah Beheshti was right for [a] change when he said: "You must always watch your words when speaking about a country involved in a revolution."

International economic relations are [a] filigree of individual ties, and filigree cannot be attacked with a sledgehammer.

Peter Gillies

(Die Welt, 30 November 1979)

Bundesbank on target with money supply

The Bundesbank's money supply target for 1980 is similar to that for the current year.

Bundesbank President Otmar Emminger and his staff have been more successful with their 1979 target than with previous ones.

In former years, the money supply always exceeded the target. But, of course, without the change from a fixed percentage target to one leaving a bit more scope the results this year would not have been so good.

Compared with the average of 1978, the money supply for the current year has risen by nine per cent.

Towards the end of 1978 — the objective was to improve the economy — nobody would have set the target that high. In other words, we would again have exceeded the limit this year, primarily due to an extensive liquidity overhang with which the Bundesbank be[gan] the new year.

But this does not apply for 1979/8[0]. Even so, the central Banks Council w[ill] have to be careful if it is to control th[e] money supply as well as in 1979.

This year, it was favoured by a fair [bit] of luck. In the first five months — fo[l]lowing the start of the European Mon[e]etary System — DM22,5 bn in foreign exchange flowed out.

In the months until September, however, foreign exchange speculators pumped DM20 bn back into the Federal Republic of Germany.

Following the first exchange rate adjustment within the EMS, another DM2bn left the country. But the next parity adjustment in the EMS is only a question of time, an influx of foreign exchange being programmed.

And when this happens, will incoming and outgoing foreign exchange be as splendidly balanced as in 1979? Not likely.

Besides, it is quite possible that the trouble between Iran and the United States will lead to turbulence on foreign exchange markets; and this is likely to result in a run on the deutschemark which has increasingly been assuming the function of a reserve currency.

This being so, it took courage to set a money supply target.

(Süddeutsche Zeitung, 30 November 1979)

Concern over rocketing public debt

The public sector will have amassed a startling DM240 bn in debts by the early 80s — a worrisome figure.

This avalanche of debt that is threatening to engulf us makes it clear that we have been spending money as if it were going out of fashion.

The state has long ceased to be the cautious householder, acting by the tried and proved principle that spending and income should match each other. Instead, the state has been living on borrowed money on a grand scale.

An added cause for concern: this indebtedness is not only growing during recession but also during upswing.

In their latest annual reports, the banks stress that the state should be more thrifty and so contribute towards monetary stability.

And, indeed, when is the tide of debts to be stemmed if not at a time when the coffers are full?

The year 1980 could prove an opportunity for the state because tax relief will not become effective until the following year; and the public sector could therefore make an all-out effort to reduce its deficit.

But views on the dangers of state indebtedness still differ widely — especially because public sector indebtedness in this country (in relation to GNP) is still lower than in most other major industrialised nations.

This is true, but we must not forget that, with the 1948 currency reform, Germany rid itself of all debts. This has made it a great deal easier to lead over other countries on that score.

It is not so much the actual figure of indebtedness that is worrisome as the enormous rate at which it increases.

In the last four years alone, the federal government, the *Länder* and the municipalities borrowed more money than in the preceding 24 years, combined.

In addition, there is another major danger: since 1975, it has been primarily state consumption spending that has risen while public sector investments have virtually stagnated. In other words,

Continued on page 7

■ RETAILING

Confectionery giants scramble for trade as buyers get more choosy

A tide of chocolate, marzipan and other commercial confectionery is sweeping the nation in the build-up to Christmas.

But consumers, although ignoring their figures and dentists' warnings, are more discriminating than ever before.

Nothing but the best will do and, encourages by the enormous range traditional sweets are frequently ignored.

Competition is fierce, and "specials" are offered by checkout counters and in other obvious, difficult-to-ignore places.

Housewives know full well what a bar of chocolate costs. Normally they consider anything under DM 1 as reasonable.

But the super specials for, say a bar reduced from DM 1.50 to 79 pfennigs, are the real attractions.

The two manufacturing giants in the business, H. Bahlsens Keksfabrik KG and Monheim (marketing under the brand name of Trumpf) agree that the biggest sellers are the expensive and the cheap lines, not the in-between.

Rolf Dieter Weber, of one of the country's two big confectionery retail chains, Süsses Kaufhaus KG in Hameln, which has 144 outlets, says most people know what they want.

Most of the steady customers, he says are people who remember the war and the post-war days when they couldn't get sweets.

To keep up in the competition, both the chains and the department stores are constantly coming up with gimmicks.

And manufacturers are always modernising and automating. Bahlsens has taken over Sprengl to make it second in chocolate manufacturers after Monheim, but Hans Imhoff says that his group is still small "compared with the market power of the nation-wide chains."

The way Herr Imhoff sees it, there are no miracles happening on this market anymore. Mass produced goods will only take a price increase if the big buyers competing with each other find it tolerable.

Only certain specialised sweets show increased sales. "But generally we have reached the peak," says Herr Weber of Süsses Kaufhaus.

Bahlsens, on the other hand, maintains that the market is far from saturated, and the rising sales figures bear this out.

The money must come from quality rather than turnover. The confection industry is expected to reach sales figures of DM 10 bn this year, mostly from higher prices rather than quantity.

Chocolate in its many forms still accounts for 40 per cent of sales. Pralines which lost in favour in the past few years, are apperently making a comeback. But there, too, quality counts and the days of 250-gramme packets for DM 2.95 are gone.

This is one of the reasons why Franz Schubert, a praline and marzipan manufacturer of Hanover, now wants to produce only high quality specialties.

He attributes the fact that his sales have almost doubled since 1974 to the high quality and relatively reasonable prices of his goods. He expects sales this year to reach DM51m.

Germans want sweet novelties all the time. Herr Schubert: "We can give the market exactly what it wants on very short notive."

He develops his own recipes and he buys his raw materials such as cocoa and almonds directly from the producers.

His machinery is constantly updated, and in the past two years alone he has invested DM8m to maintain this level of technical sophistication. But the ever lower priced specials of the retail trade worry him somewhat.

Profits in the business as a whole are poor, says Herr Imhoff. Growth he says, is a must for his business if it is to survive. Like Schubert, he pins his hopes on quality and specialties, and the newly acquired Sprengl company is to help him achieve this.

As Imhoff sees ist, his new acquisition, whose reputation has not suffered even from mass production when it was controlled by the US giant Nabisco, will help him fill a gap in the market.

Traditionally, German chocolate manufacturers supply only customers "within" sight of their chimney stacks." As a result, the individual brand names are not equally well known and popular in the various parts of the country. For Sprengl, for instance, the business territory has long been the river Main line. South of this line the company was relatively little known; and to this day its strength lies in the north.

Bearing this peculiarity in mind, Imhoff bought up companies that would guarantee him an expanded sphere of influence and help him get to the top.

It took him less than a decade to achieve this: The acquisition of Stollwerk AG earned him a traditionally good market position in the western part of the country, along the rivers Rhine and Ruhr. He expanded to the south by buying Eszet in Schwäbisch-Hall and Waldbaur in Stuttgart.

In Berlin, his family acquired a stake in the old established Hildebrand Kakao- und Schokoladenfabrik GmbH, the stock being shared between his son and daughter. The last acquisition was Sprengl.

Hans Imhoff makes no bones about his plans for Sprengl, saying: "I want to secure the north German market."

Nabisco was much more ambitious, hoping to use Sprengl to conquer the European market. It aimed at sales figures of about DM 400m. There are many rumours in the business about the methods with which the former management trid to achieve this.

Imhoff now wants to step up advertising. He has to clear old stock to provide room for the new production, and he must fully use existing capacities.

An advantage in production

Insiders say that only the Imhoff group is in the position to discontinue operations in the obsolete part of the plant because only Imhoff can continue producing in his other plants without investing more money.

His predecessor, Nabisco, would have had to invest at least DM 15m — which it was loath to do.

Imhoff has the advantage of considerable modern production capacities in his subsidiary company, Hildebrand in Berlin. Benefiting from Berlin's special status, he can produce Sprengl products in that factory whenever he likes. But this also means job redundancies in Hanover.

The Federal Republik of Germany has not exactly been an eldorado for the Anglo-Americans. Nabisco-Sprengl is only the most recent example of a conquest that backfired.

The Swiss, on the other hand, have been well established in this country for a long time; and for the Italian Ferrero concern, the German subsidiary with its DM 500m sales is the best foreign deal it ever made.

But British, Dutch, Danish and Austrian manufacturers are making a powerful push to gain a foothold on the German market.

Chocolate imports now account für 18 per cent of sales and are rising. The British Rowntree-Mackintosh group is making ab bid to step up sales in this country through the newly purchased Dutch company Nuts Chocoladefabriek BV. This company has a strong position on the German market, especially with candy bars.

In the biscuit sector, imports now account for as much as 30 per cent. There, the Dutch are predominant but Germans are also becoming increasingly fond of Danish butter cookies. German manufacturers are still unable to fathom how the Danes manage to produce goods at such incredibly low prices.

Dieter Tasch

(Hannoversche Allgemeine, 1 December 1979)

Public debt

Continued from page 6

spending has not been matched by increased investments.

This enormous spending spree is primarily accounted for by greatly increased administrative costs and spending in the social security sector, plus further increases in subsidies.

So the spending explosion does not lead to more public sector investment but is used to pay the salaries of civil servants and for the servicing of past debts.

On top of this, billions are wasted every year, as borne out by the Federal Audit Office and the Taxpayers' Association.

This growing indebtedness has also imposed an enormous burden in the form of interest payments.

At the beginning of this decade, interest payments by the public sector amounted to about DM13 bn. In 1980 it will be DM55 bn.

According to Deutsche Bank calculations, one in every eight deutschemarks spent goes into debt servicing.

The corresponding figures for the Federal Government alone are equally alarming.

In 1972, federal debt servicing cost DM3 bn. Ten years later, in 1982, debt servicing will require DM40 bn — a 12-fold increase within a decade.

In the recession year 1976 alone, debt servicing rose from DM6.8 bn in 1975 to more than DM20.5.

It takes no prophet to see that these figures will increase considerably in the years to come.

As a result, the scope for essential government spending is narrowing. No-one dares contemplate what would happen if we were faced with another recession and money were needed to boost the economy rather than service debts.

The least that could be done would be to start consolidating state finances at a time when we have an upswing and tax revenues are gushing.

Above all, we should not borrow more money or should at least limit future borrowing.

Economising should also be coupled with reforms of public spending. It is not very helpful to point out that the situation in other countries is much worse because no-one wants to model himself on the poorest performer.

The Social-Liberal government has provided many an example of good statesmanship, especially in the economic sector. But it still has to prove that it knows how to handle the taxpayers' money.

(Der Tagesspiegel, 2 December 1979)

■ MOTORING

Courts undecided on speed trap warning device

West German courts are undecided on the legality of the Super Snooper, a device that gives motorists advance warning of police radar speed traps.

It has been on sale since 1977 and tens of thousands are in use, much to the chagrin of the police, who have challenged its legality in a variety of courts.

The Bavarian Supreme Court and its counterpart in Stuttgart have ruled the device a telecommunications unit that may only be operated with Bundespost permission.

Elsewhere, however, courts have ruled that it is merely a measuring device on a par with, say, the geiger counter and not a telecommunications installation that is subject to licensing procedures.

The Bundespost's Darmstadt telecommunications research laboratory claims the Super Snooper and the Rawa 2000 and 2001, devices developed in Germany, are radio receivers for which a licence is required.

The Darmstadt boffins make it clear permission will not be forthcoming for a device that is designed to protect lawbreakers from the consequences of their misbehaviour.

Courts that have declined to agree with this interpretation say that by the terms of the Telecommunications Act a device requiring permission to operate must relay news, pictures, sound or signals in such a way as to convey a clear expression of human ideas.

This the Super Snooper, which merely buzzes when it spots radar ahead, thereby giving the motorist time to slow down and cruise through the police speed trap at the legal speed, clearly does not do.

The Bavarian court nonetheless felt it must be considered subject to licensing procedures as it conveyed information to the motorist of a clear and unmistakable kind.

A Hanover court dismissed the case against a motorist but confiscated his radar warning device with the following argument.

The Super Snooper was a telecommunications device but the accused had read in legal journals and the Press that one court had ruled it not to be one.

So the motorist in the dock could reasonably be said to have excusably misunderstood the true legal position.

With courts ruling first one way, then the other there has been an increasing clamour for a rewrite of the provisions of the Telecommunications Act, which date back to 1928.

A general ban on radar warning devices could, as the law stands, only be considered if other Supreme Courts were to join with the Bavarian bench in ruling against them.

By the terms of the Act a person who operates a telecommunications device without official permission is liable to up to five years' imprisonment and a fine.

Supreme Court judges in Frankfurt are next in line to rule on the Su- If they decide in its favour the F- Supreme Court will be required to a decision, state supreme courts h- differed on the subject.

But years will elapse before a final ruling is given by a supreme c- or the Act is amended, and mean- motorists can buy and use radar wa- devices without running too much risk.

But if they are cuaght there wil- ly be trouble, no matter which wa- first court decides.

This is unlikely to deter mot- however. Even after a clear ban on use, motorists will be tempted b- devices to outwit police radar unt- minologists claim.

What is more, the temptation w- greater than the fear of punish- should they be brought to justice.

(Der Tagesspiegel, 29 November

Road tests begin on new fuel mixture

Eleven filling stations in West Berlin have started selling a mixture of regular motor fuel and methanol, or methylated spirits.

The experiment is underwritten by the Bonn Research Ministry, which is investing DM135m in all to see whether methanol might replace petroleum.

At a press conference in the Kongresshalle spokesmen for the Federal and state governments, industry and science explained that M 15, the special mixture, would be used mainly by converted vehicles run by official bodies such as the Bundespost.

But a number of private motorists were to be included in the scheme, having ordered a specially converted car from their dealer.

Methanol makes the mixture highly toxic and aggressive, so fuel leads, pumps and so on have to replaced by parts made of special durable material.

Combustion and ignition ratings also differ from those of conventional motor fuel, necessitating conversion of carburettor and fuel injection.

Methanol is industrially manufactured methylated spirits and has a lower thermal value than conventional fuel.

The 11 methanol filling stations in West Berlin are almost as many as the 19 in West Germany. The name M- a reference to the mixture, which i- per-cent methanol.

The price charged is roughly the sa- as that of super grade conventional fu- During the trial period the -- subsidising the new fuel at the ra- 10 pfennigs per litre and 3 pfennig- kilometre logged.

The motorist will also be paid 1- cent of what the car cost to buy- judge by preliminary trials in 197- fuel consumption should be about t- to three per cent higher than normal.

Field trials are limited to West Be- because, as Peter Glotz, senator- scientific affairs, puts it, the city is i- suited for overall supervision as a - contained area."

(Hamburger Abendblatt, 29 November

■ THE ENVIRONMENT

Oxygen-pumping operation mounted in effort to save 'dead lake'

West Berlin's bid to forestall the biological death of Tegel Lake is the most ambitious project of its kind in the world.

The lake is already biologically dead below six metres (20ft) due to overfertilisation, and last March fish died en masse when the surface froze and the oxygen count plummeted to zero.

Special oxygen pumps imported from Sweden are now working day and night to aerate the water and replace the missing element.

The first three pumps have been lowered into position and are giving the lake an oxygen boost of 300kg per day each.

When the rescue operation is fully operational 15 devices will be pumping 4.5 tonnes of oxygen a day into the lower reaches of Tegel Lake.

The threat to the biological survival of the lake, which has a surface area of 408 hectares (1,000 acres) and holds 32 million cubic metres of water, comes from its two main tributaries.

Tegeler Fliess, the one, is a river. Nordgraben, the other, is a canal built to handle high water from the Panke, a tributary of the Spree.

Tegeler Fliess collects rainwater from a surface area of 142 square kilometres and has also, since the beginning of the century, carried water from Mühlenbeck and Schönelinde sewage farms.

Both are now on GDR territory and contribute towards towards Tegeler Fliess's annual 23.5m cubic metres of nutrient-laden water that flow into the lake.

Nordgraben accounts for a further 90.4m cubic metres a year. They have become a threat since the GDR built a weir in the Panke in 1952 to regulate the overflow.

Nordgraben also carries water from the Buch, Hobrechtsfelde and Blankenfelde sewage farms, all in East Berlin. When it rains, effluent is reputed to flow straight into the canal without first seeping through the filter beds.

At all events, the phosphates that flow into the lake are nearly 50 times the amount it can naturally handle.

At a depth of 14 metres the water contains 4.5 milligrams of phosphates per litre; 0.1mg is the maximum the lake could process by natural means.

Nearly five tonnes of fresh phosphates a day are fed into the lake. They originate almost exclusively from human excrement and household sewage.

Initially this nutrient salt has a beneficial effect. The lake's plant life is fertilised and grows luxuriantly. Algae go from strength to strength.

Since plant growth liberates oxygen, the water is oxygen enriched. But this process is reversed the moment algae die and precipitate to the lake bed.

As they decompose they consume oxygen, which is extracted from water at the bottom of the lake.

In healthy water nutrient salt is compounded with oxygen on reaching the bed and stays there. But if lower-level water contains no oxygen, decomposing algae extract it from lake- or river-bed compounds.

Nutrient salts chemically compounded are rendered soluble again and returned to the water, but the oxygen liberated is not enough to halt the process of decomposition.

Evil-smelling, decomposing slime is all that is left. Last May anglers wrote to the authroties to complain about the smell, which was mainly hydrogen sulphide, or the smell of rotten eggs.

In the course of time an oxygen-enriched layer forms on the surface which has little or nothing to do with the oxygen-starved lower levels.

Water weighs most per litre at 4°C; at both higher and lower temperatures it is lighter in weight. So water at this temperature is always to be found on the bed of the river or lake, with layers of colder and warmer water on top.

For a few days only, in spring and autumn when the lake is growing warmer or colder, water temperatures are roughly equal at all depths.

Deep and surface water then mix, and nutrient salt solution comes to the surface while oxygen is circulated down below.

On the surface this means more nutrient and less oxygen. Down below the extra oxygen is more than offset by a higher autumn death rate of algae.

If the surface freezes over in winter, the oxygen is soon completely exhausted. Fish then die.

In spring, on the other hand, the extra fertilisation from down below accelerates algae growth, and with it the vicious circle of self-fertilisation from which the lake can no longer break loose under its own steam, as it were.

The ultimate outcome is a lake full of foul-smelling, decomposing water, with a thin surface layer of intensive algae growth in summer where a few fish may survive.

Part of the lake's nutrient salt inflow has long been pumped to Ruhleben purification plant and from there into the Teltow Canal. But this is merely redirecting the problem.

Besides, only 43 per cent of pollution is channelled out of harm's way, and that is nowhere near enough to ensure the lake's biological survival.

So West Berlin and the Federal Health Agency are busy developing techniques to cleanse Tegeler Fliess and Nordgraben of phosphates.

But they are still at the experimental stage. Large-scale plant will not be operational until 1984 at the earliest. It is designed to process 5,000 litres of water per second.

At present 1,800 litres of impure water per second flow into Tegel Lake.

The oxygen pumps devised by Atlas Copco of Sweden have been put to work in a bid to ensure the large-scale rescue operation does not come too late.

They are moored to the lake-bed and aerate it with oxygen. This enables dead algae to decompose in the natural manner; it also prevents nutrient salt compounds from being reactivated.

The vicious circle of self-fertilisation is thereby interrupted, giving the lake a chance to regain its natural oxygen balance.

In principle the pumps resemble a bell from which a pipe extends at right angles to the surface. Compressed air is pumped into the tube from below, taking deep water to the surface.

En route the oxygen from the compressed air is dissolved in the water. This oxygen-enriched water spills over at the surface and is forced back down again.

On its way down it loses its last air bubbles. They rise to the surface, running against the current.

So bubble-free, oxygen-enriched water is pumped out of lateral pipes on the bed of the lake. Air that is not absorbed collects at the top of the bell and is returned to the surface.

This is essential because rising bubbles would take deep water to the surface, which must be avoided at all costs, since this is the very vicious circle that maintains the process of self-fertilisation.

The three pilot pumps will work all winter to prove their worth. Provided they do so (and they are expected to), a further 12 will be installed in spring.

The Tegel Lake rescue bid would then be more than twice the size of the nearest comparable project, in which half a dozen pumps are in operation.

But the lake will not be out of harm's way whatever happens until the turn of the 21st century. *Walter Baier*

(Frankfurter Rundschau, 1 December 1979)

Ecology has a victory over economy

Noise abatement regulations agreed in Coalition talks in Bonn will open up another front in the war against environmental pollution.

The first two are, of course, the campaigns against atmospheric pollution and pollution of water resources.

The new noise limits for traffic noise will not reduce the environmental decibel count at one fell swoop, but they will set statutory standards.

What is more, they can hardly fail to bring about an improvement on the present state of affairs. They are a victory of ecology over economy for once.

But members of the public who feel in need of protection from high noise levels will have to think in terms of lengthy periods.

This is inevitable, as otherwise public funds would be overburdened, as would manufacturing capaaity in the appropriate industries.

Besides, the public will have to share the cost, possibly by paying higher rents. This is only fair, since it is they who derive the benefit.

The debate currently centres on what is termed passive noise abatement, or soundproofing. But this cannot be the last word on the subject, otherwise we should one day all be running around wearing mufflers.

Lower statutory noise limits should be an inducement to manufacturers to manufacture products that make less noise in the first place.

They ought certainly to persuade local authorities to rate protecting the public from noise a priority in drawing up building plans and detailing traffic schemes.

This is a sector in which they have had much to answer for in the past.

(Kölner Stadt-Anzeiger, 28 November 1979)

Unspoiled areas allowed to flourish under protection

West Germans no longer need to fly to the Amazon or New Guinea to see the jungle. The nearest primeval forest is no further away than Bonn.

And for those who feel the Rhine is too far to go, there are designated areas of unspoilt forest on the Danube too, part of a project launched 10 years ago.

Cells of unspoilt woodland were to be left to their own devices and allowed to develop naturally into primeval forest.

Some 250 areas totalling about 5,000 hectares, or roughly 20 square miles, have so far been designated. They are in the Bavarian Forest and Rhineland regions.

Hans Lamprecht, 60, head of Göttingen University department of forestry, is keeping a scientific eye on the project.

"These reservations," he says, "are no-go areas for lumberjacks with their saws and foresters with their seedlings. Trees stay put until they die of old age or are struck down by lightning.

"New trees will only grow from seed sown by the parent tree," he adds, and no matter how impenetrable the undergrowth grows, the jungle will not be cleared.

Flora and fauna are to be left to fend for themselves. Trees that have toppled will stay where they fell, to be overgrown by plants, moss and mushrooms.

Paths that go through designated "jungle" will simply be allowed to go to seed as Nature reclaims its own.

There are several reasons for the project. "We want to maintain samples of unspoilt, natural scenery for our descendants," says Professor Lamprecht.

Germany's primeval forests will also be a nature reserve or refuge for plants and animals, including flora and fauna that reduce wood output and have largely been exterminated in cultivated woods and forests.

In the "jungle" they will be able to flourish without man-made let or hindrance. Plants and animals threatened with extinction will stand a chance of survival.

Forestry scientists are interested in finding out how woodland develops without a helping hand from homo sapiens.

"Entirely new findings may come to light," says the professor. "Nature may well perform many operations much better and more inexpensively than forestry officials.

"We also aim to find out whether natural woodland is more resistant to pollution than acreage grown for lumber."

Horst Zimmermann

(Lübecker Nachrichten, 2 December 1979)

■ ARCHAEOLOGY

Change in farming methods 'threatening existence of buried sites'

Changing farming methods are threatening many important archaeological sites in West Germany, according to experts.

They want sterner measures taken to protect sites and prevent the country from becoming an "archaeological desert".

A bonn archeologist, Walter Janssen, says that one of the biggest threats is the change in ploughing habits.

Farmers need to plough deeper and deeper to get the maximum yield from their land. Whereas 20 years ago ploughs dug only 15 or 20 centimetres into the land, today they go as deep as 40 centimetres.

According to Janssen, "ploughs bring to the surface hitherto untouched ruins and archaeological finds.

"The total destruction of sites is blatant."

Earth layers providing important clues as to dates of settlement are turned over, urn graveyards ploughed up and, of the graves and burial mounds of the early stone age, only pitifully few specimens remain.

In Schleswig-Holstein, for example, Janssen says, only 2.5 per cent of all megalith (huge stone) graves are "in an acceptable condition."

No burial mound over a metre high would survive the end of this century. The traces of the past were being wiped out. A comparison of monuments still existing today with those on maps from *the first half of the 18th century shows* that today *only between 2 and 5* per cent remain.

In the Lüneburg district, 38 per cent of above-ground monuments, mostly burial mounds, have been completely destroyed, 22 per cent partly destroyed and 40 per cent of the rest damaged as a result of military activity.

This sad balance could apply equally well to all the other states in this country.

During a discussion in Bonn, Udo Klausa, president of the German Helmat Association and Hugo Borger, chairman of the Land Archaeologists' Association and Director of the Cologne Historical Museums, appealed to the public to do more to protect what remains of our archaeological heritage.

Archaeologists speak in this context of extermination and a "disastrous process" and they are not exaggerating. It is quite clear that there is less and less ground to excavate. In some states, not even 5 per cent of the monuments recorded in 1830 still exist.

Borger warns that Germany could become an archaeological desert if nothing is done to stop this development. He quotes the example of Cologne, where in recent years some remarkable finds have been made, saying that in 15 years there will be nothing left in the city to excavate.

In 20 years, there will be a similar loss for the country as a whole. Archaeologists have called for considerably more financial support and higher staff levels to at least rescue and record as much as possible before all traces are wiped out.

They would also like to see more interest in archaeology generally. Borger says: "Our idea of history is that of a bureaucrat. We think history is only paper."

And; "No one in this country seems surprised or concerned that the evidence of our past is being sold off. In this respect we Germans head the European league tables."

In the "socially progressive" state of Hesse, for example, the annual budget for the care of monuments is a paltry DM80,000 – a drop in the ocean.

Borger is pinning his hopes largely on the German National Foundation which could play an important part in supporting their efforts and preventing the complete destruction of traces of the German past.

What are the causes for this rapid process of destruction? Archaeologists are mainly worried about property consolidation and the deeper ploughing of land to maximise profits.

Walter Janssen regards the property consolidation authorities as the number 1 enemy of archaeologists. In the slate mountain areas of the Rhineland, for example, increasing areas of land are falling victim to land consolidation and intensive farming methods.

Cooperation between land consolidation authorities and those wishing to conserve is rare.

It is all sadly reminiscent of the tale of the hare and the hedgehog: "Land surveyors are always there first."

New large-scale methods of mining raw materials brown coal mining, the mining of volcanic minerals in the Neuwied basin, sand and gravel excavation, huge building sites, municipal housing and slum-clearance projects, army training areas and finally the reclamation of marshland pose a constant threat to archaeology.

In Westphalia destructive sand excavation methods are wiping out entire prehistoric settlements.

"All that remains is a huge stretch of cleared land as flat as a board," Bendix Trier of Münster told the discussion group.

In South Baden, gravel exacavation destroyed the Roman camp of Dangsteeten. The planned motorway through the Eifel mountains is likely to destroy innumerable Roman sites.

Conservationists have very little influence on the extent of planning of such projects.

Archaeologists are also worried about the planned Rhine-Main-Danube canal as it is being built it is bound to pass through important sites but there simply is not the money or the staff to conduct proper exacavations on such a huge scale.

City centre reconstruction – as in the case of Cologne – can also be destructive.

Once excavators and dumpers have moved onto the site, the small number of archaeologists simply cannot cope with all that has to be documented and recorded.

Evidence lost under the rubble

So invaluable evidence disappears under the rubble. In Cologne, for example, between 10,000 and 20,000 square metres a year are dug up to depths of 10 metres.

In Lübeck, on the other hand, only 10 to 15 per cent of endangered areas can be covered by rescue excavations.

To prevent this national disaster and the destruction of "what is left of the remnants," archaeologists want not only more money and more people, but want archaeological conservation offices set up in every state.

Joachim Reichstein, director of the Schleswig-Holstein Department of Pre and Early History, sums up *the seriousness* of the problem. "The *loss* of sources means that important evidence has gone for ever. It is the equivalent to the loss of historical archives."

What we are doing at the moment for the conservation of our past is pitifully inadequate and grotesquely out of proportion to our considerable financial resources.

Werner Strodthoff

(Hannoversche Allgemeine, 16 November 1979)

Expert sets the cat among labyrinthine pigeons

A Greek archaeologist caused a sensation at a recent Humboldt Foundation conference when he suggested that the legendary labyrinth of King Minos on Crete may not have been a palace at all but merely a huge agricultural depot.

Did the labyrinth in which Theseus defeated the minotaur not exist, was it just an invention of Greek mythology at a time when the glory that was Crete had long since disappeared?

Antonis Zois, Professor of Archaeology at Athens' University, shook some traditional ideas of the Minoan period with his lecture on Results of New Studies of the Early Bronze Age Architecture and History of Settlement in Crete.

Professor Zois' lecture was given to the sixth international symposium of the Alexander von Humboldt Foundation in Berlin, attended by 72 archaeologists from 22 countries, including Rumania, Poland and Yugoslavia.

His lecture, apart from providing food for thought and argument, revealed how little we really know about how the people of the late stone age and early bronze age lived – despite the pottery and weapons from these periods that have been discovered.

Of course it is possible to theorise endlessly about the finds near Volos in central Greece or the excavations in the fertile Pannonic lowlands but, as Bogdan Brukner of Yugoslavia pointed out, far more research will have to be done before we can say anything definite about the structure and purpose of the buildings on these neolithic sites, including two clay models of houses reminiscent of ancient Egyptian houses of souls.

Archaeology, as this conference underlined, is only at the beginning of its long journey into the past.

At the Humboldt gathering, more than 50 archaeologists, former Humboldt Foundation scholars, described their research in the past years under the general heading of "Palaces and Huts."

The Humboldt Foundation has been holding international symposia since 1973, this year for the first time on archaeology. The Foundation's original purpose when founded in 1860 was to finance study periods abroad by German scholars.

Revived in 1953, the foundation now provides grants for scholars from all over the world to study at a German university of their choice. It also makes every effort to maintain contacts with these scholars after they have returned to their home countries.

Since 1953, the foundation has given grants to 7,000 scholars from all over the world. Only a few are archaeologists but some of them are among the world's leading authorities – for example Sotirios Dakiris, who described his excavations in rural settlements in north west Greece, and Giovanni Pettinatto, who deciphered the Ebla cuneiform script.

Pettinatto's lecture on the town of the third millenium B.C. recently discovered in Syria was both finale and highpoint of the lectures in the working group on the first forms of settlement in Europe and the Middle East.

The second working group concentrated on architecture in the Graeco-Roman period. There is evidence of careful city planning in the ancient cities of Mykonos and Delos.

Loose groupings of huts gradually became settlements in the modern sense of the term, due to the social and economic changes of the period.

Wolfram Hoepfner in his lecture on Citizens' Houses in Classical Greece revealed that at the time of Pericles the families of free Greek citizens were legally entitled to 300 square metres housing space – a fact which should make our architects and town planners think.

Hoepfner said: "The classical idea of equality meant the highest possible degree of individual freedom and not narrow egalitarianism."

The third working group studied settlement in the late classical period. The influence of Roman architecture at the time extended as far as Germania and the damp British Isles. However, at the margins of the Empire there were anonymous architects who followed the traditions of people's architecture. This architecture made use of traditions whose origins are still unknown today, said Gerardo Pereira Menaut in his lecture on Forms of Settlement in North West Spain.

The lingua franca of this conference – despite the wide range of the subjects – was German. Only one lecture, by Indian Bal Krishen on the Indus Civilisation was given in the Latin of the 20th century – English.

At mealtimes a truly Babel-like variety of tongues was heard.

Margarete v. Schwarzkopf

(Die Welt, 30 November 1979)

■ THE ARTS

'Apocalypse of corruption' not for the delicate

The Staatliche Kunsthalle in Berlin is now holding an exhibition of the work of contemporary realist Wolfgang Petrick.

Petrick's world is cruelly traumatic. His nightmares are not surrealistic, but meticulously sober. the demonic element of these paintings showing cats' heads on warlike human bodies, birds' eyes in faces convulsed with fear, naked bodies and torsos tied to machines is inescapable, precisely because of the clarity of his style.

The great apocalypse of corruption, mummification and sense of the end of the world has become more and more of a dance of death in the past 15 years.

Though we secretly recognise that this is the truth, we are reluctant to look it in the face. This modern German Goya, who depicts evil the better to fight it, shares the fate of all fanatics who insist on using the vocabulary of terror which is just behind or under the veneer of appearances: we acknowledge them, but we have our reservations. We repress the strong emotional response we ought to feel.

Wolfgang Petrick, though internationally known to a certain extent and backed by Berlin, has not achieved the recognition he deserves.

This exhibition presents an overall retrospective of his work from 1962 to 1979 and it is thus possible to follow the painter's development in clear phases. First come the picture-within-a-picture paintings which were considered typical of him, then the acrylic paintings of the mid-sixties as a transition towards the severely realistic style of the late sixties.

The fantastic element, the subjects of pollution and the rising of the flood in a world increasingly threatened by war, the slow dehumanisation of tortured bodies and faces petrified with fear, a world of soldiers in gas masks, creatures from Mars, prisoners of the future which has already begun, terror-stricken and tainted with technology – all these aspects are even more diabolical now that Petrick's style is so meticulously precise.

Realism is a confrontation with the unspectacular demon in our needs and consumption habits. All this is more strongly repellent than the spectral grotesque sketches reminiscent of Dubuffet and the overdrawn etchings which could even have been described as "beautiful."

This demonisation is achieved most overtly by Petrick's painting animal heads on to human bodies.

Huge, hissing cats with human eyes – or the strangely rigid human portraits with birds' eyes.

Alsatians, always a threat, frogs and worms are outside the realm of the human. The terrified birds in atom and bomb shadows, despairingly being held aloft by people sinking and drowning, themselves become evil.

In the scenic Protective Clothing for Gulliver Project at the end of the exhibition, heads with beaks, birds' masks reminiscent of carnival masks or astronauts' suits have completely replaced human beings.

'Katzenauge' (Catseye), 1978, by Wolfgang Petrick, a mixture of techniques, on canvas. (Photo: Catalogue)

Petrick worked with a team to produce the seven life-size black Gullivers with red beaks.

A work process is described on a large wall in the form of texts, photos, mask designs, anatomical sections.

Petrick, who has also designed stage sets and costumes, here gives spatial expression to his vision. He produces environment scenes out of cords, fuses, bits of wood, mull and cellophane.

Grosstadt (1977) consists of cupboards, nailed, half-burned coffins on edge – and between these images of corruption the originally intact pictures of people.

In *Die Blinden*, 1979, Petrick depicts ghostly figures in a corner of a room on an upper floor. Caught in a segment of light, they dance their corpses' dance, knocking and tumbling against one another. Brueghel was his model here but Petrick has gone further, to the extreme of what can be represented.

This exhibition is not for those of delicate sensibilities. Young people walk around resolutely, studying certain pictures closely. Older visitors either make comments as connoisseurs or shrink back.

This is the stocktaking of a very possible end. Those really affected cannot escape from their own associations of ideas. This art demands a last-minute change.

But like all things thought through to the final consequence, Petrick's hell is more than frightening.

It contains, though does not show, its own counter-project.

Hedwig Rohde

(Deutsches Allgemeines Sonntagsblatt, 2 December 1979)

Glass-blower gets show off to a spectacular start

Darmstadt glass artist Kurt Wallstab gave a demonstration of glass-blowing over an open flame to lend a spectacular touch to the opening of an exhibition in Hanover.

The exhibition, at the Kestner Museum, features a concentrated selection of glass vessels and other every-day objects.

Organisers Interversa, of Hamburg, will take the show to various museums throughout Germany before returning to Hamburg, where it will go on permanent exhibition at the Museum of Arts and Crafts.

In Hanover, it provides a fascinating contrast and complement to the Museum's own historical collection of glass.

Wallstab's display caused, naturally, considerable fascination, and it would be a good idea if the Museum took this idea further and invited other artists to demonstrate work techniques. In this exhibition, about 70 glass objects by 15 West German glass artists are on show. The exhibition is not only an aesthetic experience, it is also highly informative: there is a survey of techniques, methods and glass design. Several genres are recognisable. We find, for example, glasses cut from blocks of clear glass and formed into light-giving and light-refracting material; glasses blown at the oven and coloured and glass painted and burnt with metal oxides and metal salts.

'Objekt 1977,' by Karl R. Berg. Ground glass in cone shape. Berg specialises in optical glass objects and clear geometrical shapes. (Photos: Catalogue)

The result is an exciting variety, contrasts between cool, clear form and more animated basic patterns, between mathematical precision and imaginative, vivid richness of form and colour.

Glass artists such as Karl Berg, Franz Xaver Hoeller, Marianne Hof, Andreas Nirsch and Willi Pistor show the many possibilities of simple material.

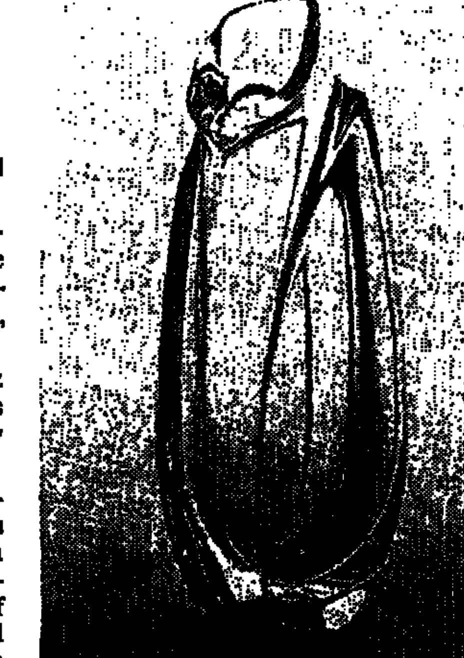
Glass blower Erwin Eisch has developed fantastic designs: his dark vessels adorned with silver are amorphous, an independent collection, exquisite, slender and elegant, vaguely reminiscent of the Jugendstil (pre-Raphaelites) and give an element of dramatic, luxurious brilliance to the exhibition.

Exquisite and equally reminiscent of the Jugendstil are the irridescent opaque surfaces of Pavel Molnar or Isgard Moje's coloured glasses. Klaus Moje uses a much older, pre-Christian technique for his glass mosaic bowls.

Johannes Schreiter's glass window designs round off the examples of glass handicrafts as practised in south Germany in particularly in small and very small workshops.

There are very few opportunities of studying or practising this art form at art schools and academies these days.

The Kestner Museum exhibition with its wonderfully simple everyday objects, free, generous glass objects such as those of Hans Peter Kremers and highly distinctive, richly vivid works is an exemplary collection of individual artistry – beyond mass production, beyond historicist nostalgia but also beyond the purchasing means of most visitors, who have to put up with mass produced glass.



'Vase 1978,' by Andreas Nirschl, in clear, ground optical glass, drop-shaped.

This is why it is so important that specimens of this fine work should at least be accessible in museums.

Ursula Bode

(Hannoversche Allgemeine, 27 November 1979)

■ MEDICINE

Children with leukaemia 'have better than even chance'

Between 60 and 70 per cent of children with acute lymphatic leukaemia can today be cured.

At a meeting in Hanover, doctors heard how remarkable progress in treating the disease has been made.

Only 15 years ago, leukaemia meant that young people had only weeks or months to live. A cure seemed impossible. There were drugs that could inhibit the spread of the degenerate white blood corpuscles, but death was still the usual result.

But success, the doctors heard, is because of a co-ordinated programme in various clinics which made it possible to use selective pharmaceutical treatment methods combined with radiation treatment of the central nervous system.

The meeting was held to mark the award of the 1979 Johann Georg Zimmermann Prize to Professors Donald Pinkel, from Duarte in California, and Hansjörg Riehm, of Berlin.

The new therapy can only be carried out in a few clinics.

Not only does it require comprehensive experience by the doctor but also regular laboratory tests so he can follow the course of the disease.

Side effects have to be accepted

And complications can only be prevented in a suitably equipped hospital. *However side effects have to be accepted because long-term experience shows that this is the only way of treating the disease.*

Leukaemia usually leads to secondary tumours in the spleen and the liver. As a rule, the young patients die of infection unless the red blood corpuscles have been totally supplanted, in which case death is caused by anaemia.

Incidentally, medicine only speaks of leukaemia when the increase in the number of while corpuscles is dratsic.

The treatment of acute lymphatic leukaemia in children today usually follows the methods of Professors Pinkel and Riehm.

In the first phase the patient receives high doses a total of eight different drugs within eight weeks.

After four weeks radiation treatment is given to the central nervous system.

The objective of the first step, which can be repeated if necessary, is to retard the development of white corpuscles.

The reason for the great number of different drugs, Professor Riehm told the meeting, has to do with the fact that the body stops to react to the individual types of medication after a relatively short time.

Since the formation of degenerate white corpuscles then sets in again, new drugs must be given.

This first therapeutic phase is followed by long-term treatment with drugs over two to three years. There, too, a constant check must be kept on progress. Only treatment that takes the course of the disease into account can be successful.

Statistics presented by the two award winners show that most patients respond to this aggressive therapy though failures can occur and complications can be fatal.

But of 73 patients that formed part of a therapeutic study between 1970 and 1976, 49 were still alive in June 1979 a success rate of 67 per cent.

Remarkably, none of the children have undergone further treatment for at least 12 months.

Professor Pinkel told the meeting that some 90 per cent of children with acute lymphatic leukaemia in the United States are not treated by these modern methods because the therapy is not only complicated but also very expensive.

In a way, modern leukaemia therapy had widened the gap between the hospital treatment of the rich and that of the poor.

Treatment must become cheaper and more simple, he said.

He suggested that it was one of the important tasks of the next years to shed light on resistance to medication following initial effectiveness. This is probably the cause of occasional relapses once actual therapy has ceased.

What mattered for Professor Riehm was to make use of supra-regional studies involving a larger number of patients to modify the therapy.

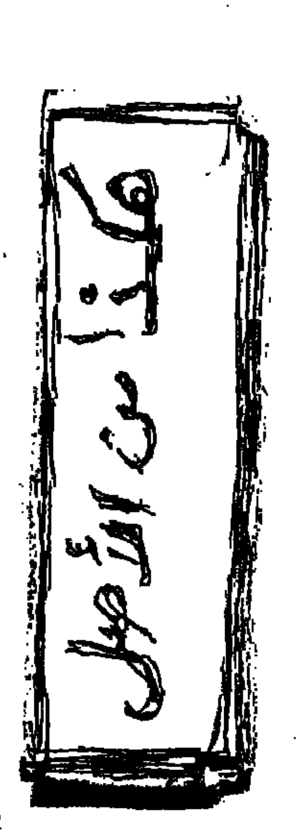
An attempt should be made in the next 10 years to draw demarcation lines between patients involving differing degrees of relapse risks in order to bring about a therapy more in keeping with risk factors.

This should make it possible to save 80 per cent of leukaemia sufferers.

Asked whether there were any therapy alternatives to the treatment prescribed by him, Professor Riehm said: "No."

Konrad Müller-Christiansen

(Hannoversche Allgemeine, 20 November 1979)



IN BUTTERFLY FASHION this new hearing aid from Siemens of Munich opens to reveal the latest in slimline microelectronic components and a super-sensitive directional microphone. It combines smaller size with greater power and economy; a battery now runs for 100 to 120 hours before it needs recharging. (Photo: Siemens)

More comfortable life for artificial colon patients

People with artificial colons fitted following surgery for cancer are able to live more normally then ever before. Some can even play sport.

Medical progress has even enabled 20 to 30 per cent to manage without the conspicious bag. The natural continence function of the muscle has been replaced by a ring or a magnetic closing devices, the recent World Congress for Stomatherapy in Düsseldorf was told.

There was a lively discussion on *whether higher quality of life should be* obtained by forgoing the necesary radical surgery.

Professor Karl Kremer, one of the hosts, emphatically denied this. He said that observation showed that in virtually half the cases operated on new tumours appeared, frequently in the first two to four months.

But a second operation can be carried out if the relapse cases are kept under strict observation in the course of intensive aftercare.

This aftercare should also include psycho-social assistance and strengthen the patient's self confidence.

The congress was told that there is a great deal of lost time to be made up for in this sector.

In the Federal Republic of Germany there are only 11 specially trained nurses for such cases (so-called stomatherapists) compared with 1,400 in the United States.

Germany's only training centre for stomatherapists was opened recently in Düsseldorf. It provides two-month courses for a very limited number of people.

Experts set Germany's needs at 10[illegible] such nurses.

To provide the best possible care, they could work simultaneously at several neighbouring clinics with small surgical departments carrying out no more than one such cancer operation every few weeks or months.

This personnel requirement is relatively small considering the estimated 200,000 Germans who have had to undergo such surgery.

The problem is particularly urgent because the number of malignant intestinal cancer cases in this country has — for totally unknown reasons — risen [illegible]-fold in the past 10 years.

American Norma Gill attended the congress as living proof of the meaningfulness of comprehensive stomatherapeutic care. She herself has worn such a device since 1954.

It was she who developed the first special care for these patients through the help of the Cleveland Clinic Foundation, a co-organiser of this year's congress.

Next year, the experts will meet in Cleveland, Ohio.

dpa

(Frankfurter Rundschau, 26 November 1979)

Factory life a bitter pill for doctors

Only one quarter of works doctors' time is spent on physical checkups, according to labour medicine specialist Professor Theodor Hettinger.

But statistics show that the average works doctor devotes three quarters of his time to this job.

Workers and trade unions show little understanding for the present practice.

Says one union official: "It's worth pondering the fact that most of the checkups concern the suitability for dangerous work."

But, according to a representative study, two thirds of the work force expect their works doctor to do other jobs as well, such as providing first aid, counselling on the choice of a more suitable job following illness or accident and exerting a decisive influence on the arrangement of work places in accordance with health criteria.

The same study shows that doctors have a say in only five per cent of such decisions.

The poor image of works doctors — they are kept away from all decision-making processes by the employers — and the widespread reluctance to consult such a doctor for fear of losing the job are matched by the depressing results of mass checkups: examinations carried out in 10 major Hesse companies last year showed that 80 per cent of the 3,450 employees involved needed treatment. One in five had to be sent to a sanatorium and one in 30 wound up in hospital.

Health insurance figures show that the situation has remained unchanged since 1968.

As a government employed labour medicine specialists recently put it: "We need more qualified people in this sector of medicine."

But the situation is unlikely to change due to the shortage of practical training at universities, notwithstanding the glut of doctors we have at present.

The Swedish labour physiologist Professor Lennart Levi doubts that the problem of more human working conditions can be solved with our present ideas, saying: "Only a single factor has been changed, and we have never been told at the cost of which other factors this was done. For instance: everybody wants more money but no-one asks about the cost of health."

Four criteria are decisive for a leading German oil corporation — and other companies as well — in filling executive positions: Analytic ability, imagination, pragmatism and superiority in the face of adversity.

But Professor Levi would like to see another criterion added: The future executive should, on a compulsory basis, be familiar with labour psychology and labour medicine.

Peter Jennrich

(Die Zeit, 23 November 1979)

■ EDUCATION

'Social danger' warning over numbers of unqualified school leavers

In 1977, more than 20 per cent of *Hauptschule* (elementary secondary school) school leavers left without any qualification whatsoever.

This statistic was one to emerge during an educationists conference in Osnabrück which examined the reasons for failures in the educational system.

Delegates after visiting schools and psychotherapeutic centres, hearing lectures and taking part in discussions, came up with an answer which many non-educationists could have told them beforehand: it is not the child who is a failure but the school.

Augsburg education professor Ilse Lichtenstein-Rother complained that "every year, 100,000 youngsters are thrown into the job market ill-prepared and socially downgraded."

The educationists believe that the standardised requirements and criteria of schools are to blame. The school does not cope with the democratic requirement to prepare children for an independent, social and above all individual life.

Professor Lichtenstein-Rother criticised the system of repeating classes: "It solves the school's organisational problems but not the specific problems of the child."

Besides, she continued, marks were not a satisfactory instrument of selection: they established achievement levels within a class but did not provide an objective criterion for comparison between classes.

Professor Kurt Nitsch, president of the German Society for the Prevention of Cruelty to Children, said that schools were not solely to blame for the fact that 23.5 per cent of secondary modern school leavers were unqualified.

He argues that this failure is already programmed in early childhood. He even goes so far as to say it starts with the "inhuman maternity hospitals." Psychological and social disorders led to vegetative neuroses among children which often lasted throughout their lives. Professor Nitsch said: "Our children are not physically ill, but their health is seriously in danger.

"Many fathers and mothers do not know how soullessly they are acting when they expose their very young children to fear and stress."

This became clear when children failed class tests solely because of fear of failure. This is where the school had an important role to play.

"It must be in a position to resist the exaggerated expectations of parents urging their children to achieve distant goals. The school can provide educational and psychological support without abandoning standards," said Professor Nitsch.

He called for "child-oriented primary schools where teachers had some notion of child psychology."

On the other hand a teacher in one school told the educationists: "I don't see why teaching should become less and less important and we have to become pseudo-psychologists."

Examples from the city of Osnabrück alone show how important it is to involve psychologists in school life: 40 per cent of all crimes in the city are committed by people under 18.

Three children under 18 committed suicide in the city (population: about 140,000) last year. Two had just been told they would have to repeat their class. One of them told a classmate shortly before his suicide: "I just can't take any more. That's it."

Several teachers from Osnabrück were invited to answer general questions, such as: how can the school with its present structure help weak pupils?

The teachers all agreed: by special individual attention from the teachers, whether the pupils have educational difficulties, are foreigners or are just plain slackers.

One teacher said with a tone of resignation: "This is getting more and more impossible in mass institutions. I go home depressed every day because I know that there was at least one of my 35 pupils whom I could not help."

Martina Kempff

(Die Welt, 28 November 1979)

Teachers make their point with 9-hour day, work-to-rule 'experiment'

Teachers in a Bremen grammar school are working to rule. They want to show the public that they do work harder than they say is generally believed.

The teachers, in the city's Horn district, are working a nine-hour day.

After school proper is over, they correct homework, prepare lessons and do administrative work.

But when the nine hours is up, they drop everything. Records of work are kept and at the end of an experimental period, these will be assessed.

The exercise began in the middle of last month *because it was felt that the public was badly misinformed about teachers' workload.*

Departmental head Hermann Wierichs: "This is meant to put an end once and for all to the idea that teachers only work half a day."

Herr Wierichs says that he now does not need to "spend half the night correcting when I get home. And at weekends I've got loads of time — no preparation to do, no piles of tests to mark."

When allowing for the teachers' holidays, which are longer than other civil servants, their 45-hour week is equivalent to 40 hours in other branches.

The teachers had to work out priorities because of the limited time, and agreed that preparation and correction of sixth-form work would come first.

Naturally, other teaching must suffer.

Although the new system makes life easier in many respects, the 45 teachers involved are solidly against it becoming permanent.

Christine Claussen

(Lübecker Nachrichten, 27 November 1979)

Talks begin again on getting those textbooks accurate

A conference of historians is attempting to decide how school textbooks in West Germany and America can best portray the other country.

The conference was held regularly from 1952 to 1967. It has now been resumed in Braunschweig at the instigation of education departments in both countries, because of indications that information for schools in becoming distorted.

In an American textbook, for example, historians found a detailed account of the Third Reich and the persecution of the Jews.

The history of the Federal Republic of Germany, on the other hand, was only dealt with sketchily, the main headings being "Berlin air lift" and "Berlin Wall."

Professor Karl-Ernst Jeismann, director of the Georg Eckert Institute, venue of the talks, pointed out that many German pupils tend to see U.S.A. almost exclusively in terms of Vietnam, Watergate and "race problems."

Both sides have now officially expressed their wish for an improvement.

The Bonn Ministry of Foreign Affairs is providing financial support and the American State Department commissioned Professor Donald S. Detwiler of Southern Illinois University to set up the commission of experts.

German historians want American pupils and students to learn more about democratic, social and liberal movements in Germany and about the history of the Federal Republic in general.

They want to ensure that the film "Holocaust" and national socialism are not seen in isolation but in the context of German history.

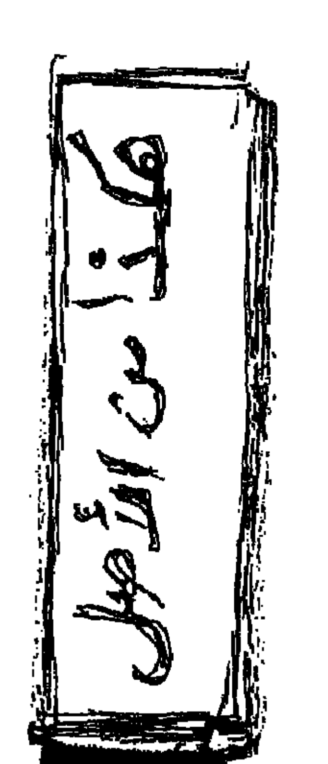
American experts would like to see a more dynamic image of the U.S.A. than that presented in Kojak. They want Americans to be shown as a nation seeking its identity and consensus.

Up to now the textbooks the experts have studied have been chosen at random. By the middle of next year, they hope to have sifted systematically through the main textbooks and produced a first analysis.

The questions of method and areas to be covered will then be dealt with at a working session in July 1980.

Friedhelm Henkel

(Frankfurter Neue Presse, 29 November 1979)



■ MODERN LIVING

To marry or not – an old question with a few new answers

The bad thing about marriage is that it exists. The state can protect marriage effectively only by abolishing it as a legal institution."

This is the sort of platitude produced by the discussion on alternatives to marriage. While the one camp pillories forms of living together that have not been sanctioned by the Registrar, the other calls proper marriage immoral.

But to go along with *Liesel Evers and* Diether Huhn who (in their paperback *Ehe – Isolation zu zweit,* or "Marriage – Isolation for Two", edited by Helmut Ostermeyer and published by *Fischer Taschenbuch Verlag,* serial No. 3403) demand the abolition of legalised marriage would be tantamount to putting the cart before the horse.

Though it might seem problematic that the law should force two people to be attached to each other for life, legalised marriage provides the weaker partner (traditionally the woman) with effective protection.

The fact that even very private relationships depend on legal provisions is evidenced by the growing number of court cases dealing with couples out of wedlock.

The problems begin with the common home. Though no landlord can be charged with procuring anymore, it remains questionable whether he must tolerate unmarried tenants living together. The answer to the question is yes in Berlin and no in Hamm (North Rhine-Westphalia).

*Last April, a Berlin court ruled in fa*vour of an unwed couple, saying that, especially in a metropolitan area like Berlin, unmarried couples must be able to take it for granted that they may live together. As a result, the landlord has no right to force his own moral views on his tenants.

In Hamm, on the other hand, morals still seem to prevail. The court there ruled that taking a live-in partner into an apartment is contrary to the terms of a lease.

The court's said: "Those who consider the living together of an unmarried couple immoral must be free to rid themselves of a tenant who disregards such honourable basic views.

"It is part of the landlord's personal freedom to be free to implement his moral views on what may or may not take place in his house."

This ruling is based on a concept that reduces living together out of wedlock to pure sex.

But respect for and faith in each other have nothing to do with the Registrar and are not a prerogative of married life.

The Bochum clergyman Alfred Ziegner thus warns of a moral devaluation of unwed couples, saying: "Must we not earnestly ask ourselves whether such non-institutionalised living together is not more honest than a marriage that serves as a facade hiding a battle field?

"Can such a temporary arrangement not be a relatively good one during a time when, for one reason or another, the couple is not yet in a position to enter marriage?"

And is it not more humane and hence morally more sound to follow the suggestion of the North-Elbe church which proposes that the living together of unwed couples be ritualised instead of condemning it with stentorian censure?

The reasons for not marrying are much more complex than assumed by the Hamm court.

In earlier years, this was usually done for economic reasons that prevented a couple from seeking legalisation. This brings to mind the many liaisons of convenience in the immediate post-war *years when widows could not afford to* lose their pension rights. This problem hardly exists anymore since legal provisions have been greatly improved.

Economic reasons thus play a minor role except where taxes are concerned.

According to article 6 of the Constitution, marriage and family enjoy the special protection of the state. But this can be applied to tax laws only with reservations.

While families with only one breadwinner are at an advantage over single people, these where both parties earn a living are worse off. But this alone makes few people turn down legalised marriage.

Personal reasons predominate nowadays. Especially younger couples do not like to get tied down too early, preferring to have a trial before getting getting married.

Apart from these trial marriages, more and more people deliberately opt not to get married.

Especially women fear for their independence and view marriage as an attempt by the state to commit them to the traditional role of housewife and mother.

Many couples thus opt to forfeit the protection provided by marriage. Our law still seems to disapprove of such living together or, to put it more exactly, it largely ignores it.

The Constitution has no alternative provisions to marriage though it does not view other forms of cohabitation as illegal.

At a discussion on the relevant Article 6 of the Constitution in the Parliamentary Council, the CDU put forward a formulation placing marriage as the legal form of permanent cohabitation of man and woman under the protection of the Constitution and discarding any other form as illegal.

The rejection of the CDU formulation makes it clear that the fathers of the Constitution did not intend to restrict this protection exclusively to institutionalised marriage.

A small number of laws refer di to cohabitation resembling marriage.

Judge Fritz Kunigk (in his comp hensive book *Die Lebensgemeinsch – Rechtliche Gestaltung von ehelich und eheähnlichem Zusammenleben,* "Cohabitation – Legal Provisions Marital and Quasi-Marital Cohabitatio published by *Kohlhammer Verlag,* St gart) points to a remarkable discrepa Where financial matters are concer the state recognises unmarried couple

This includes the sectors of so welfare and unemployment insura where couples living together are tre as if they were married.

While the law here presupposes the partners care for each other, in other respects this is ignored.

If a woman living with a man gi up her job to devote herself to t children she has no right to receive mony should she separate.

It is also frequently considered i moral that the child of an unwed co should inherit if there are children fr a previous, legal, marriage.

For those who want to live togeth without being married and still wan secure each other's rights in the co mon home there is but one way ope they must enter into a contract (Fri Kunigk's book provides a number o samples).

The whole thing seems curious: to es cape the standard contract of a marri as prescribed by the state, the co must enter into an another contract.

Astrid Hölscher

(Deutsches Allgemeines Sonntagsb 25 November 19

A waxworks without, of all people, Elvis Presley

"Do you have Elvis Presley?" three young girls recently asked at the ticket office of the wax figure museum in Hamburg.

Its owner and meanager, Heinz Hermann Färber, regretfully had to admit that he did not and that he considered this a serious shortcoming. The three girls lost all interest and moved on.

This is a pity, because a visit to Germany's only such museum would have been worthwhile even without Elvis.

The museum, which this year celebrated its 100th anniversary, is the oldest family enterprise on Hamburg's Reeperbahn (billed by some as "the world's most sinful mile").

Herr Färber, who took over the management after retirement, sees the importance of his museum in the fact that it "tangibly captures present and past life, presenting its figures in the clothes of the era and in lifelike settings.

Some of the more than 100 figures are better than others, Herr Färber admits. Chancellor Schmidt is one of the best.

Adhering to his express wish, the museum presents him with a beaming smile, dressed in a white turtle-neck pullover and ablue blazer. He is complete with pipe and glasses, though his *Lo mütze* (harbour pilot's hat) is missing.

Says Herr Färber: "Having take much trouble with his hair, we cou hide it under a cap."

But since many visitors have co plained about this, Herr Färber will the cap under the chancellor's arm.

The Chancellor is flanked by his p decessors on the one side and Presid Thedor Heuss and Walter Scheel on t other. Fidel Castro is also there, co plete with fatigues.

Since the museum has personalities all walks of public life, the visitor finds actors Heinz Rühmann and Meysel as well as Pablo Picasso and Hi degard Knef.

Adele Sandrock gazes through lorgnette and TV star Erik Ode leans sually against the wall opposite.

"The trouble is, visitors scratch at figures to see how genuine they are, you can well imagine what that does the wax," says Herr Färber.

The oldest figure is that of Charle magne in magnificent robes. It w made by the grandfather of the pres owner and survived two world w Most other pre-war figures were destr ed by bombs in 1943.

The museum reopened in 1948 the few figures that remained maged because they were stored els here.

Herr Färber intends to expand would like to include Elvis Presley his collection if he could find an to make the figure from photographs.

Marianne Wöbcke-Nagel, who many of the other figures, has while retired.

dpa

(Kieler Nachrichten, 23 November 19

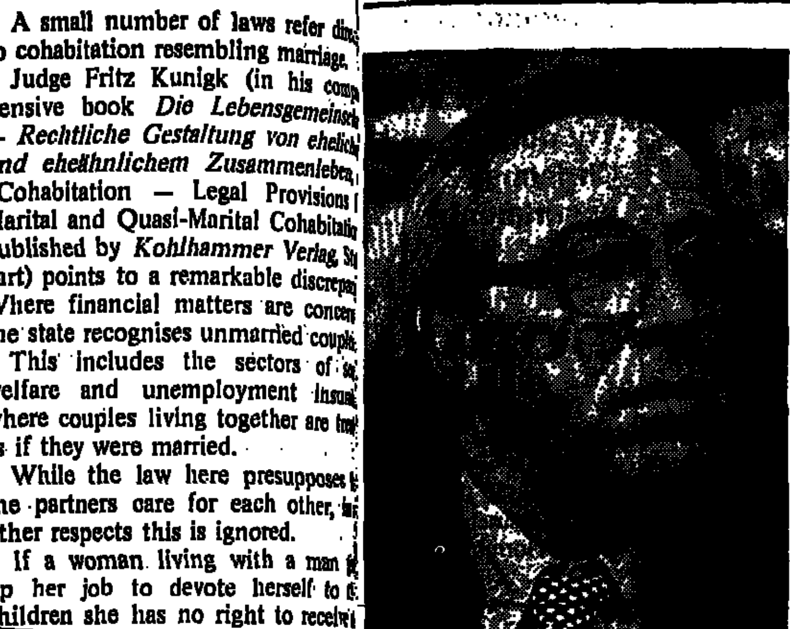




The creator of many wax figures in Hamburg's wax museum, Marianne Wöbcke-Nagel, with two of her better-known creations. Left is the Chancellor, Helmut Schmidt, being kept company by former Chancellor Ludwig Erhard. (Photo: dpa)

■ SPORT

Soccer team fights to stay in top division as . . .



Wolfgang Holst (Photo: Horstmüller)

Wolfgang Holst was elected board chairman of relegation-threatened Bundesliga First Division soccer club Hertha Berlin on 30 November.

Not two days later he saw the team go into an early one-goal lead in Dortmund, only to be outclassed, beaten 4-1 and sent spinning to the bottom of the table.

At the end of last season Hertha had to sell first-rate players such as Nigbur, Weiner and Beer to consolidate club finances and comply with Football Association regulations.

The West Berlin club's playing staff have since been mainly second-rate, although they still draw first-rate salaries.

The combination of high wage bills and poor gate money is proving catastrophic. The fans are staying away in droves. Not many are prepared to watch a second-rate team lose time and again.

Financial problems mount up while team performance plummets. In mid-1979 liabilities totalled DM2.25m. They have since shown a steady increase.

Hertha ended last season DM3.1m in the red. This disastrous showing may well be repeated if figures revealed to the 29 November annual general meeting by Hon. Treasurer Olympio Bernabei are any guide.

A financial plan drawn up in May is no longer relevant, since nearly all players' contracts have been renegotiated. Players' wage bills, originally estimated at DM1.91m, are now expected to total DM2.96m.

Hans-Joachim Kleemann, chairman of the committee that rewrote the accounts, was most annoyed. He began by claiming the way the club had been run was absurd:

"No business enterprise of this size could possibly afford to allow its affairs to be run by a part-time, unpaid board of honorary committeemen.

"Yet although this is fully acknowledged to be an impossibility, Hertha carries on regardless. It will not do in the long run."

He accused the club's management of failure to realise the need to make use of the services of professionals.

Herr Kleemann outlined in detail his committee's objections to the revised financial plan, especially with regard to FA regulations.

The new plan was based on the assumption that home crowds would average 19,500 (as against 16,000). He felt this was unrealistic.

"On this account alone we are worried the club might run up a further DM800,000 in debts between now and the end of the season."

Does Hertha still deserve Bundesliga status? Financially the answer is a clear no. And tail end of the league table is a position that speaks for itself in terms of sporting performance.

The Kleemann Committee agrees: "In the remainder of the current season players who are worth anything much by way of a transfer fee must be sold to pay the club's debts."

But newly-elected board chairman Holst will hear nothing of the idea. He is an old hand who was associated with the club at the time of the match-rigging scandal a few seasons ago.

The West German FA even banned him from holding office for a while, but the ban was waived and back he is.

Only the day before he had arranged for someone to underwrite DM100,000 so the club could pay November salaries. Now he was talking of raising a further DM900,000 to persuade creditors not to foreclose.

What was more, he was going to sign on new players to get goals on the score-board and fans back on the terraces – fans whose gate money would consolidate club finances.

Restaurateur Holst hopes to pull off a last-minute rescue bid, but his first move did not please the fans at all. Jürgen Milewski, 22, was to be sold to SV Hamburg for DM700,000.

"But in his place Hertha will be fielding two new forwards next week," he promised.

Yet will DM700,000 be enough to buy two new first-rate forwards? Hertha fans are understandably unconvinced. They are worried their new chairman will just run up even more debts.

This would certainly be true to form where Hertha Berlin are concerned.

Lutz E. Dreesbach

(Handelsblatt, 3 December 1979)

. . . an old star comes back with vengeance

Bayern Munich, a brilliant soccer side of the late 60s and early 70s, are back in the limelight with five wins in a row, full houses and money coming in hand over fist.

"In one week we grossed about DM1.3m in two games," says team manager Uli Hoeness. "We have never had gates or receipts to equal it."

The DM1.3m came from home games against Borussia Dortmund and Red Star Belgrade. After a clear 3-0 away win in Düsseldorf the next home game against Stuttgart was sure to be a sell-out.

Munich's Olympic Stadium has not been as full to overflowing since the halcyon days of "Kaiser Franz" Beckenbauer.

But appearances are deceptive, as the away fixture against Düsseldorf demonstrated. The Bayern stars took to the field in *lederhosen* as a sure-fire publicity gag but played with ice-cold determination to win.

After the match their new trainer Csernai was featured in a carefully orchestrated press conference. These were not mere coincidences; they are symptomatic of a change.

Almost a year beforehand Bayern lost 7-1 in Düsseldorf. It was an ignominous defeat and a dubious one that marked the parting of the ways with trainer Gyula Lorant.

It was also the beginning of the end for longstanding Bayern President Wilhelm Neudecker, who was ousted from the board in a palace revolution.

Eleven months later Bayern demonstrated, again in Düsseldorf, that the revolution had been a success.

They are not just winning but doing so happily. Franz Beckenbauer and Gerd Müller are past history. The present team have developed a style of their own.

The 3-0 win in Düsseldorf was a demonstration of breathtaking objectivity. Bayern always used to play coolly. This time their play sent a chill down your back.

They paralyse their opponents, then stonewall in front of their own goal, only to launch devastating attacks aimed straight at the opposing goal, heedless of the opposition.

It is a style unequalled in Bundesliga soccer at present. Only Hamburg bear comparison with the Bavarian side. The return match between the two will be the needle match of the season.

One reason for Bayern's current showing is self-evident: Karl-Heinz Rummenigge, who has finally found goal-scoring form. In 15 league fixtures he has scored 10 times.

Rummenigge has systematically practised goal shots at top speed, improving his scoring rate to between 60 and 70 per cent. In Düsseldorf he accounted for two of the three goals.

On three other occasions Rummenigge goals were disallowed for off-side, but at least two of these decisions were doubtful, to say the least.

So Bayern at last have a goal-scoring ace to take over the role played for so many years by Gerd Müller, and this is what makes them such dangerous rivals for reigning Bundesliga champions Hamburg.

In capitalising on scoring opportunities the Munich side are head and shoulders above Hamburg.

Bayern have got their game together on the pitch, and their social life is running smoothly too. There are no more scandals, there is no more squabbling in the team.

"But we had to part company with Kapellmann," says Hoeness. In the circumstances this is a most revealing comment.

Asked who held the reins of power, he or trainer Csernai, Paul Breitner merely smiled. But the way which he announced on TV that his ex-team mate Sepp Maier's playing days were over left little doubt.

Breitner is Bayern's current strongman. Bayern President Hoffmann is happy. So is Hoeness. Only trainer Csernai seems keen to kick at the traces.

After the Düsseldorf win he went to great lengths to explain how important a part he, Pal Csernai, had played.

Bayern had exceeded all expectations, were the day's best away team, were averaging 45,000 spectators, were among the league leaders and so on.

He personally had responded with lightning speed to the non-appearance of Klaus Allofs, taking Kraus out of the team 30 minutes before kick-off and replacing him with Janzon, a more attacking player.

Pal Csernai seems already to feel he is well on the way to welding a championship-winning team. *Ulfert Schröder*

(Hannoversche Allgemeine, 3 December 1979)

Shooting and tennis get more popular

On 15 October 16.5m West Germans were members of 50,739 sports clubs affiliated to the German Sports League (DSB). In other words, more than one German in four is a member.

This year two records were broken: more than 16m members and more than 50,000 clubs. Twenty years ago the DSB's 5.1m members belonged to 29,025 clubs.

So membership has roughly trebled and the number of affiliated clubs doubled since 1959, when only one West German in nine belonged to a sports club.

Twenty-five years ago, in 1954, the figures were 3.7m members, 23,073 clubs and one in fifteen.

Shooting and tennis are the sports that have gained most spectacularly in popularity lately. Between 1959 and 1979 membership of clubs affiliated to the Marksmen's Association increased from 108,400 to 1,029,100.

Over this period Tennis Association membership increased from 173,900 to 44,100, and while marksmanship's popularity seems to have peaked, tennis still booming. In 1979 membership creased by 137,700.

Gymnastics for women and children seems to have boosted membership of the Gymnastics Association, but karate has nosedived. In 1979 one karate club member in four either retired or went in for some other sport.

Association football is the most popular sport, as ever, with an aggregate membership of 4,236,100. Then come the gymnasts, with 2,999,600.

Tennis and marksmanship come third and fourth, followed by athletics (722,500), handball (639,400), swimming (598,200), table tennis (587,100), equestrianism (437,000) and skiing (432,100).

Twenty years ago these 10 were already the Top Ten, but the order was different: 1. football (1,702,400), 2. gymnastics (1,383,500), 3. athletics (450,900), 4. handball (289,200), 5. swimming (256,500), 6. tennis (173,900), 7. table tennis (168,300), 8. skiing (126,900), 9. marksmanship (108,400), 10. equestrianism (74,100).

The latest figures have come as a surprise even to Sports League officials in Frankfurt, where the number of clubs is rated particularly sensational.

Eduard Friedrich of the Federal Competitive Sport Committee reckons each club averages about a dozen unpaid committeemen, or a total 600,000, not to mention the many other helping hands that keep clubs going.

Experts are agreed that 1976 estimates of the number of unpaid club officials in one capacity or another are no longer accurate. The true number must be well over 1.1m. *Karl-Adolf Scherer*

(Lübecker Nachrichten, 1 December 1979)